

PEKING REVIEW

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January 3, 1975

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New Year Message

"Renmin Ribao," "Hongqi" and
"Jiefangjun Bao" editorial

Thirteen Consecutive Years of Rich Harvests

Building Oil Industry Through
Self-Reliance

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Premier Chou Cables Prime Minister Whitlam

Premier Chou En-lai sent a cable on December 28 to Australian Prime Minister Edward Gough Whitlam, expressing solicitude to the people living in the city of Darwin which was hit by a powerful cyclone. The cable said: "On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, I wish to express our heartfelt sympathy and solicitude to you and, through you, to the Australian Government and the people in Darwin."

Comrade Chang Chun-chiao Meets Paraguayan Communist Party Delegation

Chang Chun-chiao, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met and had a cordial and friendly conversation recently with all members of the Delegation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Paraguay led by General Secretary Oscar Croydt. Comrade Chang Chun-chiao gave a dinner in honour of the delegation after the meeting.

The delegation came for a friendly visit at the invitation of the C.P.C. Central Committee. It visited some places of China before leaving for home.

New Capital Construction Projects

China built a number of large and medium-sized water conservancy projects in 1974 with state funds as well as many small ones financed by people's communes and production brigades. Involving over 6,000 million cubic metres of earth and stone work, the projects have expanded the irrigated acreage by 2 million hectares and freed 1.66 million hectares from waterlogging.

Over 20 large and medium-sized fertilizer plants were built or expanded last year. Increased produc-

tion capacity for synthetic ammonia in the first ten months topped the increase in the same period in 1973 by 20 per cent. For tractors, it also surpassed that of 1973.

These were some of China's new achievements in capital construction serving agriculture, the foundation of the national economy.

Another major achievement was the construction or expansion of a number of iron and steel enterprises and projects producing raw and processed materials and fuels, resulting in fresh rises in the production capacities of the basic industries. With the commissioning of new mines and iron-smelting, steel-making and steel-rolling plants, the iron and steel industry in the hinterland has made significant advances. Adding rolling equipment, medium-sized steel plants have increased rolling capacity in the various localities.

More than 60 pairs of coal shafts, located mostly in east, central-south and northwest China provinces which produced little coal in the past, were built last year. In some old mines, such as Kailan in north China, many shafts are being reconstructed or expanded.

Builders of the fast-growing petroleum industry have speedily drilled many high-quality wells in Taching, Takang, Shengli and other oilfields. They also have built a number of new refining installations and laid long-distance pipelines to raise refining and transport capacities. The increase in last year's natural oil extraction capacity roughly equals the total increase in the five years before the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

In the power industry, a number of large steam- and water-turbine generating sets were built on the principle of combining big, medium-sized and small, with stress on the last two. Following the first 200,000-kilowatt steam-turbine generating set designed and built by China herself which went into operation in 1973,

another with a capacity of 300,000 kilowatts was constructed in 1974 and is already operating. A hydro-electric power station with a total generating capacity of 1.2 million kilowatts was also completed.

Transport and communications departments stepped up the building of trunk railways and arterial highways and harbours. Harbour construction for the year was marked by a tremendous amount of work done at high speed and with good quality. By the end of November, more than twice as much work had been done on coastal harbours as in the corresponding period in 1973. More than a dozen new berths were installed, plus a number of oil supply installations.

More state-financed capital construction projects were taken on in light industry and municipal development during the year, indicative of the great attention the state pays to the steady improvement of the people's livelihood on the basis of production growth. Construction in the chemical fibre and sugar refining industries went ahead on a larger scale than in 1973. In the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region alone, five big and medium-sized sugar refineries were under construction. Gas facilities are now available in more than 30 cities, nearly double the number in 1965.

Urban residential quarters and primary and middle school premises have increased. The Peking housing area in 1974 expanded by about 20 per cent over 1973. In Tientsin, the floorspace of primary and middle school buildings increased by more than 30 per cent over the 1973 figure.

China's 1974 achievements in capital construction were based on the victory of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and came in the midst of the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius. In the eight years of the Cultural Revolution, construction and production were given

(Continued on p. 35.)

New Year Message

1975 New Year's Day editorial by "Renmin Ribao,"
"Hongqi" and "Jiefangjun Bao"

NINETEEN seventy-four, a year of united struggle; has ended and the people of all nationalities in our country are striding into 1975 in high spirits.

In the past year, we have successfully carried out the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, a movement personally initiated and led by our great leader Chairman Mao. Hundreds of millions of workers, peasants and soldiers, revolutionary cadres and revolutionary intellectuals have further exposed the crimes of the Lin Biao anti-Party clique and, in the light of actual conditions, criticized Lin Biao's counter-revolutionary revisionist line and the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius which preach restoration, retrogression and national betrayal, and have thus heightened their consciousness of the need to continue the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. The socialist revolution in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture, is forging ahead. Mass contingents of Marxist theoretical workers are growing quite rapidly, and in many organizations there is a much greater keenness in the study of theory, history and current conditions as advocated by Chairman Mao. The revolution in education, in literature and art and in medical and health work is constantly deepening. We enjoy thriving socialist innovations. The movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius has consolidated and enhanced the victories of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. The entire Party, the entire army and the people of all nationalities in China are still more united. The dictatorship of the proletariat in our country is more consolidated than ever.

Revolution has pushed production forward. In agriculture, an all-round rich harvest has been won on top of the consecutive rich harvests of the previous 12 years. The total value of industrial and agricultural output shows a fresh increase over 1973. New successes have been achieved in industry, capital construction and science and technology. In our country the market is brisk, prices remain stable and production and construction are thriving. All this is in striking contrast with the decline in production, growing unemployment and inflation in the capitalist world which is facing a profound economic crisis, and demonstrates the immense superiority of the socialist system.

The victories on all fronts in the past year, and particularly the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, have enabled people to see more profoundly, in the light of current and historical class struggles,

the importance of upholding the Party's basic line. To combat and prevent revisionism is a long and arduous struggle, and under no circumstances should we relax our fighting will. Chairman Mao pointed out once again in January 1965: "Class contradiction, the class struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and the struggle between the socialist road and the capitalist road exist throughout the transitional period. We shall go astray if we forget this fundamental theory and practice of our Party over the last dozen years or so." We have conscientiously followed this teaching of Chairman Mao's in the last ten years. We should continue to bear it in mind in the present excellent situation.

In the new year, we should adhere to the Party's basic line, broaden, deepen and persevere in the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, achieve still greater success in the revolution in all spheres of the superstructure, consolidate the socialist economic base, achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in developing economic construction and national defence construction, strengthen Party leadership, stick to the mass line and unite the people of all nationalities in our country in a dauntless struggle for the great cause of socialism.

It is necessary to continue to grasp firmly the criticism of Lin Biao and Confucius. The main attention should be directed to study and criticism. In criticizing Lin Biao and Confucius, we should concentrate on the question of the line and the reactionary nature of their attempts at restoration and retrogression, conduct a deep and thorough criticism politically and theoretically, and further criticize their idealist and metaphysical reactionary world outlook by applying the Marxist world outlook. The small number of organizations which have not done well in the criticism of Lin Biao and Confucius should take it up in real earnest. Further efforts are required for the study of the historical experience of the struggle between the Confucian and the Legalist schools and of class struggle as a whole in order to make the past serve the present. While engaged in criticism, we should assiduously study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. The criticism of Lin Biao's bourgeois military line should be combined still more closely with the study of Chairman Mao's military thinking, the enhancement of preparedness against war and the strengthening of army building. The criticism of Confucius should be combined still

better with the study of the fundamental theories of Marxism on class struggle and on the proletarian revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat. We should study more deeply Marx's *Critique of the Gotha Programme*, Lenin's *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism* and *The State and Revolution*, and Chairman Mao's *On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People*, *On Practice* and *On Contradiction* and his principal military works. Leading cadres should take the lead in study, strive to grasp the Marxist stand, viewpoint and method and effectively build up the ranks of Marxist theoretical workers; only thus can they guide the rank-and-file in deepening revolutionary mass criticism.

Study and criticism must be linked closely with reality. Different points of emphasis should be selected according to different conditions in order to shoot the arrow at the target. We should conscientiously study the series of instructions issued by Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and criticize Lin Piao's criminal attempts to split the Party and the ranks of the revolution and further promote revolutionary unity. We should deepen and carry forward the socialist revolution in all spheres of the superstructure, continue to do a good job of struggle-criticism-transformation and make a point of summing up the fresh experience in all fields of work and solving the new problems that have emerged. We should carry on education in the Party's basic line by linking it with the realities of the struggle between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines in all spheres and on all fronts, stick to the socialist road and combat capitalist tendencies. First of all, leading organs must do well in the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and stand in the van of the mass movement, and must be good at applying the method of combining the general with the particular in their guidance of work, and successfully grasp typical cases, the key links and initially one-third of the work as a whole, and gradually solve problems existing in their respective regions or departments in a down-to-earth way, so as to ensure that the task of consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat is fulfilled in every basic unit. When it comes to practical problems, we must always consciously keep to the general orientation of the struggle, faithfully implement the policies of the Party, strictly distinguish between the two different types of contradictions and in particular correctly handle contradictions among the people, and deal accurate blows at the sabotaging activities of a handful of counter-revolutionaries. Only thus can we unite over 95 per cent of the cadres and masses and steadily consolidate and enhance the excellent situation.

This is the concluding year of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, and we must persevere in grasping revolution and promoting production, go all out, aim high and strive to fulfil or overfulfil the Fourth Five-Year Plan. We should continue to implement the policy of taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading factor and arrange the national economic plan in the

order of agriculture — light industry — heavy industry, develop agriculture in a big way, step up industrial support for agriculture, strengthen the basic industries and make earnest efforts to run national defence industries well. We should give scope to the revolutionary spirit of maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts and deepen the mass movement — in industry, learn from Taching; in agriculture, learn from Tachai; the whole nation should learn from the People's Liberation Army; the Liberation Army should learn from the people of the whole country. With the deepening of the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, there is bound to be a new upsurge in socialist construction, and we must take this into full account. We must wholeheartedly rely on the working class and on the poor and lower-middle peasants, bring all positive factors into play, unite with all that can be united with and speed up our socialist construction.

The People's Liberation Army has made great contributions in the struggle to defend our socialist motherland and consolidate the dictatorship of the proletariat. In the new year we should apply Chairman Mao's proletarian military thinking and military line in further strengthening army building, conscientiously improve military training, strengthen political and ideological work, display revolutionary heroism, and strengthen the unity between the army and the government and between the army and the people. It is necessary to bring the militant role of the people's militia into full play. Armysmen and civilians throughout the country should further implement the great strategic principles advanced by Chairman Mao: **Be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people and dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony.** We are determined to liberate Taiwan!

We must continue to strengthen Party building and the Party's centralized leadership. Party committees at all levels must adhere to the principles "Practice Marxism, and not revisionism; unite, and don't split; be open and aboveboard, and don't intrigue and conspire," and must serve as militant headquarters in carrying out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and policies. They must practise democratic centralism, wage active ideological struggle, enhance unity among committee members and further improve the building of leading bodies at all levels. They must forge close links with the masses, do more investigation and study, maintain the system of cadre participation in collective productive labour and accept revolutionary supervision by the masses. Party branches should play their part as the vanguard of the proletariat, and Party members should strive to fulfil the five requirements set for them in the Party Constitution, strengthen their Party spirit and observe Party discipline. The role of the revolutionary committees and that of organizations of workers, peasants, women and youths and other mass organizations should be given full scope under the unified leadership of the Party.

In the past year new successes have been achieved with Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs. The Chinese people's unity with the proletariat and the revolutionary people throughout the world has become stronger, their co-operation with other countries of the Third World has steadily grown and their friendly interchanges with the people of various countries have further increased. At present, the international situation characterized by great disorder under heaven continues to develop in a direction favourable to the people of all countries. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution — this historical current is surging ahead. The Third World countries have become the main force in the revolutionary struggle against the two hegemonic powers. The two superpowers are having a tougher and tougher time and the world finds itself in a state of greater turbulence and unrest. We must conscientiously study Chairman Mao's scientific analysis of international questions and strengthen our research on the international situation, particularly the contention between the two hegemonic powers — the Soviet Union and the United States — and the current economic crisis of world capitalism. We should continue to implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs and make due contributions to the revolutionary cause of the world proletariat and the cause of human progress.

"Ours is a just cause. A just cause is invulnerable to any enemy." As the new year starts, we hope the masses and cadres will review their work, discuss the situation and their tasks, and work out outline plans for their respective organizations so as to advance bravely towards new victories along Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line!

Thirteen Consecutive Years of Rich Harvests

by Chi Feng

CHINA had another rich harvest in 1974, the 13th in a row since 1962. Total grain output reached an all-time high, eclipsing 1973's rich harvest. Bumper harvests of industrial crops, including cotton, oil-bearing crops, jute, ambary hemp, silk cocoons, sugar-bearing crops and tea were gathered. The 1973 output of jute and ambary hemp was already twice that of 1971 and in 1974 it rose again by quite a large margin to adequately meet the country's requirements. Forestry, animal husbandry, side-line occupations and fisheries all registered fresh successes.

Eighty per cent of the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions brought in a bumper grain harvest. Many high-yield areas boosted production. Chekiang Province in the south improved on its two-year record of more than 7.5 tons of grain output per hectare, while Shanghai's ten counties averaged 11.25 tons per hectare. Six, as against two in 1973, averaged more than 12 tons per hectare. In north China, Chenting County and Shih-chiachuang city, both in Hopei Province, Yentai city in Shantung Province and Kaoling County in Shensi Province all brought in higher than 7.5 tons per hectare.

Hopei, Shantung and Honan Provinces, three traditionally disaster-ridden and low-yield areas, which became basically self-sufficient in grain in 1970 had a surplus in 1973 by raising output to two and a half times that of the early post-liberation annual total. The three delivered and sold to the state some half a million tons of marketable grain in 1973 after deducting enough for rural consumption, seeds, stock-feed, the collective reserve and fully meeting the needs of their towns and

cities. In 1974, they also increased their marketable grain by quite a big margin.

An encouraging trend in agriculture in Shensi and Kansu Provinces and the Ningsia Hui Autonomous Region on the northwest loess highlands was their 1974 grain harvests rising by nearly 10 to more than 30 per cent above those of the year before.

Special mention must be made of Tibet on the "Roof of the World" where bigger harvests were reaped over large areas. Total 1974 grain output which was more than 15 per cent higher than in 1973, already a good year, was nearly 2.5 times that of 1958, the year before democratic reform was carried out and serfdom was overthrown. Winter wheat has been successfully grown on large areas in Tibet where high altitude and extreme cold once severely limited raising this crop. It is now sown as high as 4,100 metres above sea level through the introduction of scientific methods and the average per-hectare yield for Tibet today is upwards of 3 tons. In addition to high yields on large areas, 700-kg. per-*ke* (1/15th of a hectare) were also gathered, creating remarkable results in winter cultivation.

Prior to the founding of New China in 1949, the imperialists clamoured that as the population in China grew the food problem would build up an "unbearable pressure." They predicted that China would not be able to feed her people. Both hegemonic powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, recently continued singing this old tune. One asserted that "the food shortage" in the Third World "was due to over-population," while the other loudly claimed "the rapid



Hsincheng County commune members in Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region working at a water conservancy project criticize Lin Piao and Confucius.

rise in population was a millstone round the necks of the Third World."

China's agricultural development has been a head-on blow to these absurd utterances of the imperialists and social-imperialists. While the population has gone from 500 million or so in the early years of post-liberation to today's approximately 800 million, a nearly 60 per cent increase in 20-odd years, grain production has more than doubled. This has fully borne out the truth that **"revolution plus production can solve the problem of feeding the population,"** ("The Bankruptcy of the Idealist Conception of History," *Selected Works of Mao Tsetung*, Vol. IV.)

Revolution Promotes Production

The peasants in old China under the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism were heavily exploited and agricultural productivity was crippled. Total grain production in 1949 was a mere 110 million tons. The working people at that time lived on the edge of starvation.

The national democratic revolution led by the Communist Party of China overthrew the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism. After the founding of New China, land reform was carried out in the rural areas and in 1956 agricultural producers' co-operatives were set up on a large scale to bring about the socialist collectivization of agriculture and sustained development in agriculture. In 1958 most of China had set up people's communes, which were more collectivized and combined government administration with commune management. After a series of natural disasters were overcome, bigger and bigger

harvests have been gathered year after year, fully demonstrating the superiority of the people's communes. Total grain output in 1974 topped the more than 250 million tons of 1973.

China's vigorous development of agriculture in the last score years and more was due mainly to the Chinese people under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line taking class struggle and two-line struggle as the key link and in the rural areas carrying out a series of great political movements such as land reform, agricultural co-operation, the setting up of people's communes, the socialist education movement, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius; transforming the system of ownership; setting

up, consolidating and developing the socialist economic base and sweeping away the obstacles in the superstructure which undermined the socialist economic base and hindered the development of agricultural productivity so that Chinese agriculture taking and maintaining the socialist road was ensured.

The Tachai Production Brigade in Shansi Province, the advanced unit on the agricultural front, kept to the Party's basic line after collectivization and became the standard-bearer in achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building up a socialist agriculture. (See "The Tachai Road" in *Peking Review*, Nos. 40 & 41, 1974.) Chairman Mao in 1964 had called on the whole country **"In agriculture, learn from Tachai."** In the course of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution which began in 1966, rural cadres and commune members criticized in a deep-going way the revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao that tried to undermine the socialist collective economy and restore capitalism. This has vigorously developed the movement to learn from Tachai.

As an illustration, take Hsiyang County where the Tachai Production Brigade is located. Because of the interference due to an erroneous line, the movement there to learn from Tachai at first did not make much headway. During the Cultural Revolution the county conscientiously studied and popularized Tachai's experience and a tremendous change took place in farm production. The peasants of Hsiyang erected a total of 600 kilometres of stonework embankments across five rivers and 3,000 ditches and terraced about three dozen hills to convert 80 per cent of the cultivated land into stable, high-yield fields with greater ability to

withstand natural adversities. Grain output in this county of 210,000 people soared nearly 200 per cent in 1973, compared to 1966. Total grain output as well as per-hectare average in 1974 were the highest in Hsiyang's history.

The movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius which started in 1974 is a new motive force in developing China's agriculture. With the merging of the campaign to the movement in the countryside to learn from Tachai, the number of counties, communes and production brigades modelled after Tachai is growing. The peasants say that since Lin Piao wanted to restore capitalism and go back to the old ways, they must do the opposite. They must go forward to speed up their pace of socialist construction. They criticized the theory that "everything is decided by heaven" spread by Lin Piao and Confucius and have strengthened their confidence and resolution to take the socialist road and in being able to transform nature. In the winter of 1973 and last spring 110 million people throughout China were working on farm capital construction. Cadres at all levels criticized the reactionary fallacies of Lin Piao and Confucius that "the highest are the wise and the lowest are the stupid" and "those who work with their minds govern, those who work with their hands are governed"; and went to the countryside by the hundreds of thousands to take part in physical labour and to strengthen leadership in agricultural production. An upsurge of "grasping revolution, promoting production" is now taking place in the rural areas.

Agriculture Is the Foundation

Chairman Mao's general principle of "taking agriculture as the foundation and industry as the leading

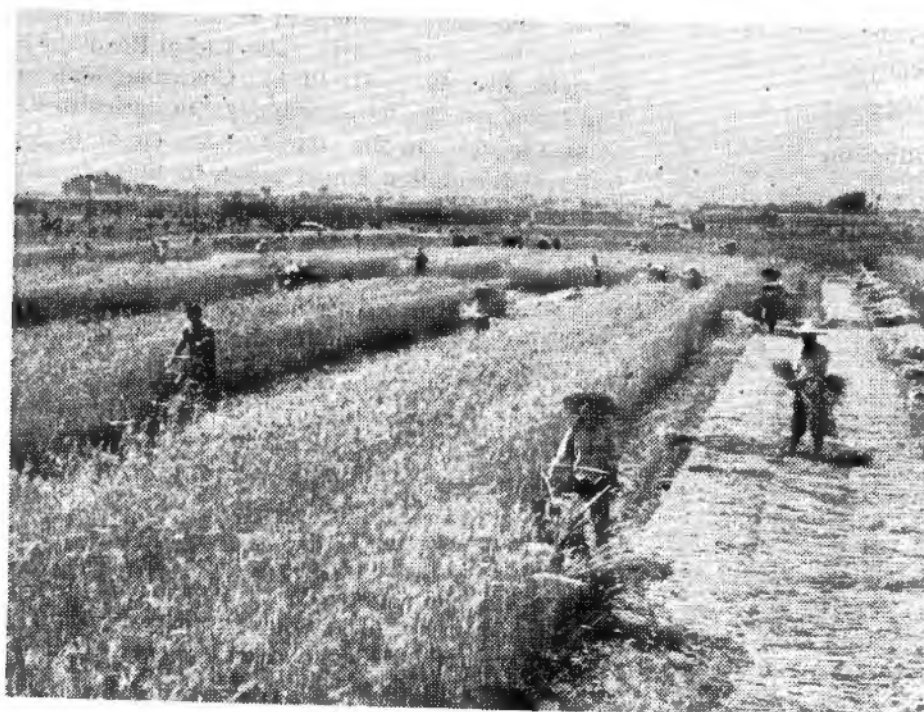
factor" for developing the national economy points out the law for socialist economic construction. Only with the development of agriculture can there be manpower, grain and industrial raw materials for the development of industry, the market for industrial goods enlarged, more funds accumulated for industry and industrial development speeded up. More and more people have come to grasp this law since the start of the Cultural Revolution. An important factor in China's thirteen successive bumper harvests is because simultaneous with the development of industry, farm production was energetically boosted and all trades and enterprises gave agriculture full support.

One important reason for the relatively rapid development of agriculture and industry in recent years in the three formerly severely grain-short provinces of Hopei, Shantung and Honan is that they arranged production and construction in the order of agriculture, light and heavy industry, always putting agricultural development first. Party committees at every level have strengthened leadership in agricultural production, and sent large numbers of cadres down to the grass-roots of the agricultural front. In the use of funds they also have paid attention to developing agriculture as well as organizing industry, all trades and enterprises to go all-out in supporting agriculture. In the last few years the three provinces have built more than a thousand small plants turning out machinery, cement and chemical fertilizers, and small coal mines to accelerate the mechanization of agriculture.

While setting up large chemical fertilizer plants, the state at the same time has encouraged local initiative to establish its own small plants. Today, more than half the national total of chemical fertilizers comes from small local fertilizer works. Since 1970 some provinces,

such as Hunan in central-south China, have, under the unified leadership of the provincial Party committee and with the co-operation of industrial departments throughout the province, devoted considerable efforts to making equipment for manufacturing chemical fertilizers. Hunan has produced sets of equipment for making synthetic ammonia, built 87 nitrogenous fertilizer plants and has added 23 more phosphate fertilizer plants to its original nine. These have played a very positive role in ensuring continuous expansion of agricultural production.

Financially, the state also has given support to agriculture by implementing the policy of higher production without increasing the tax. The annual agricultural tax in 1953 amounted to 12 per cent of the



Wheat harvest — Puchiang County, Chekiang Province.

gross production value of agriculture and side-line occupations, whereas today it is only a little above 5 per cent. The state annually allocates vast sums for the development of water conservancy projects as well as for helping rural people's communes and brigades with economic problems develop production. Each year the state invests nearly 50 per cent more funds than in 1965, the year preceding the Great Cultural Revolution, to support agricultural production. It has any number of times raised the price paid for agricultural and side-line produce and lowered the selling prices of industrial goods for farm production.

Transforming Mountains and Rivers

Despite excessive rain, drought and other natural disasters in the past thirteen years, China has annually reaped good harvests. This is inseparable from the heroic spirit of the Chinese people who are "transforming China in the spirit of the Foolish Old Man who removed the mountains." Tremendous achievements have been accomplished year after year in transforming nature on a huge scale.

The construction of water conservancy projects has been done on a vast scale since the founding of New China. (See "Harnessing China's Rivers" in *Peking Review*, No. 49, 1974.) The Huai, Yellow and Haiho Rivers, the three most troublesome, have been harnessed according to an overall plan. One-third of China's population and more than one-third of its arable land are to be found in the drainage basins of these rivers. An endless procession of droughts and floods accompanied the history of reactionary rule in China. Prior to liberation, there were no less than 1,029 serious floods and 1,056 serious droughts in about 2,000 years. When the Yellow River breached its dykes in 1933, it flooded 11,000 square kilometres and inflicted sufferings on some 3.6 million people. When drought struck five provinces in north China in 1920, it brought widespread starvation, directly affected 20 million people of whom half a million died.

Personally inspecting the country's large rivers after liberation, Chairman Mao issued important directives for harnessing the Huai, Yellow and Haiho Rivers. Today these rivers which wreaked so much past havoc have been tamed to serve industry and agriculture. Once known as "China's Sorrow," the Yellow River has been made safe for the past quarter century without once breaching its banks thanks to the work put into protecting the dykes against savage torrents. Its waters are being led in a planned way to irrigate fields. The threat of flood and waterlogging in the Haiho River basin is by and large now removed. The ability to fend off flood, waterlogging and drought in the Huai River basin has been greatly strengthened. In the summer of 1974 when there was a concentration of heavy rain, the Yiho and Shuho, in the Huai basin had to deal with the biggest volume of water in post-

liberation years, but the floodwaters were safely directed out to sea with greatly reduced devastation due to systematic use of the retention basins and other projects that had been built by the people along the Huai River and its tributaries.

Water conservancy in China has been speeded up since the Cultural Revolution began. China now has more than 2,000 large and medium-sized reservoirs. Power irrigation and drainage capacity totals more than 30 million h.p., about four times that of 1965, the year preceding the Great Cultural Revolution. In the same period, the number of power-pump wells has risen from 100,000 to 1,300,000. Every winter and spring tens of millions of people work on building water conservancy projects and removing 5,000 million to 6,000 million cubic metres of earth and stone annually.

Large-scale building of water conservancy projects is accompanied by enormous efforts in levelling, deep ploughing, terracing, removing hills to build fields and improving low-yield land.

Scientific Farming

In summing up the experience of China's agricultural production, Chairman Mao drew up the "Eight-Point Charter" for agriculture,* the programme for bringing about scientific farming in China. Large-scale participation in this is a powerful impetus to agricultural development.

Agronomic research departments all over the country constantly send specialists to join and guide peasants in scientific experiments and train peasant technicians by holding training classes and so on. The state selects and sends a good number of peasant technicians with practical field experience to universities and colleges. The rural people's communes back these scientific experiments by way of funds, material, equipment and experimental plots.

Since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution more and more scientific experimental groups made up of commune members, cadres and scientific-technical personnel have come into existence at the county, commune, brigade and production team levels. Right now there are more than 10 million people engaged in scientific farm experiments. Good results have been obtained in implementing the "Eight-Point Charter" for agriculture, particularly in seed selection and breeding, popularizing improved strains, changing over to ways of improved cultivation, cultivating bacteria fertilizers and plant hormones by indigenous methods and combating insect pests. Improved rice strains now account for 80 per cent of China's sown rice acreage and improved wheat, upwards of 70 per cent.

* The "Eight-Point Charter" for agriculture: soil improvement, use of fertilizer, irrigation, better seed strains, close planting, plant protection, better farm implements and field management.

One important measure in recent years for increasing output is multi-cropping being extended over a much larger area. Triple-cropping is done in the warmer regions such as the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River. Inter-cropping is being expanded in the colder regions of the north where two to three crops are reaped a year instead of one as before. This has considerably boosted per-unit yields.

Chairman Mao has pointed out: "The fundamental way out for agriculture lies in mechanization." In recent years, the farm machine-building industry has developed rapidly and mechanization of agriculture has been steadily speeded up. The last four years have seen industry providing more tractors, walking-tractors, irrigation and drainage machinery and chemical fertilizers than the total for the first 20 years of liberation.

The area ploughed by machines is now nearly twice that before the start of the Great Cultural Revolution. This has provided important material and technical conditions for obtaining continual increases in agricultural production.

Thirteen successive years of bumper harvests have inspired the Chinese people no end. Across the land, from the subtropical southern coast of China to the frozen snow-bound three provinces of the northeast, from the central plains to the frontiers, hundreds of millions of peasants now are hard at work on water conservancy and farm capital construction. Industry and other branches of the economy are continuing their huge support to agriculture in the battle for greater development of socialist agriculture.

Rational Distribution of Food Grain

IN socialist New China, whose population numbers roughly 800 million, everyone receives an adequate supply of food grain. This holds good for poor or rich harvest years, town or country, remote forest and pastoral areas or fishing zones. Grain prices remain low and stable all over the country. The days when working people had to go hungry while landlords and capitalists filled their bins to overflowing, hoarded and speculated are but a bitter memory of the past.

Oppression by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism in old China led to extremely low grain outputs and an utterly unreasonable distribution system. Landlords, rich peasants and urban capitalists, who accounted for less than 10 per cent of the population, seized more than half the nation's food grain while the working people making up more than 90 per cent of the population were left with the remainder, which averaged less than 100 kilogrammes per capita each year. Surveys in north, northwest and central-south China showed that farm labourers and poor peasants, who together accounted for more than 80 per cent of the rural population, had to subsist on bran and wild vegetables from four to eight months a year. A bad year forced them to flee the area and go begging; many died of starvation by the roadside. The landlords and capitalists, working hand in glove, cornered the market, drove up grain prices and grabbed huge profits through speculation.

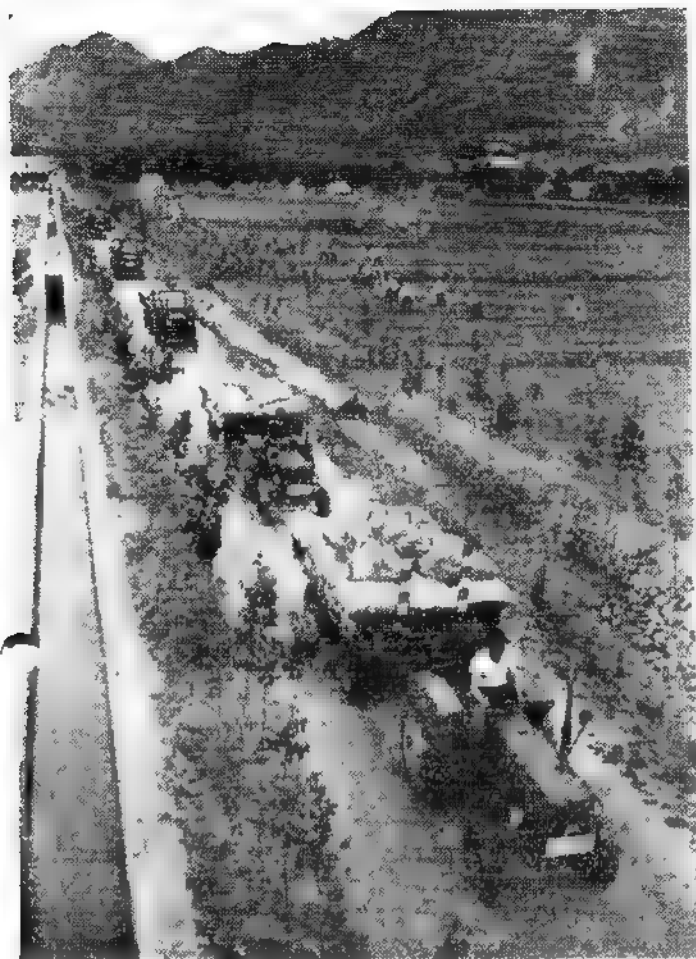
Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, China's farm production has developed steadily in the past 25 years since liberation. National grain output in 1973 surpassed 250 million tons, more than double the 1949 figure. With the expansion of production, the

work of distribution is taken seriously and carried out well. Immediately after the founding of New China, the Party and the People's Government took effective measures to curb hoarding, speculation and profiteering by unscrupulous dealers. Grain prices, which had been fluctuating for many years, were stabilized by and large within half a year. The policy of unified and planned purchase and marketing of food grain by the state was put into effect by the People's Government in autumn 1953, and this ensured the people in the cities and rural areas a secure life and guaranteed the unobstructed progress of socialist construction.

Planned Purchase and Marketing

Planned purchase and marketing of food grain by the state is a socialist system of distribution which substitutes a unified, organized grain market for a free grain market. The state purchases grain directly from the producer according to plan and sells it directly to the consumer in fixed quotas and at reasonable prices. This once and for all ends speculation and brings grain distribution completely into the orbit of the state plan.

In supplying food grain to inhabitants of cities, towns and industrial and mining areas, the state adopts the principle of ensuring their needs by allotting fixed quotas based on a graduated scale. These quotas are set according to locality, age and labour intensity. Workers in heavy industry (e.g. steel, railways, mining and petroleum), where labour intensity is relatively high, receive around 30 kilogrammes a month. This system of supply differs fundamentally from the unreasonable food rationing system of old China which left the labouring people in a state of semi-starvation as a result



Delivering grain to the state.

of serious grain shortages and disregard of actual consumer needs.

Develop the Economy and Ensure Supplies

The principle guiding the collection of agricultural tax in kind and the purchase of food grain in the rural areas is based on promoting agricultural production and strengthening the collective economy with due regard for the interests of the state, the collective and the individual. In levying the agricultural tax and in purchasing grain, the state sees to it that sufficient amounts are set aside for the peasants' needs and for seed, fodder and other production purposes. To encourage the peasants' enthusiasm for production, the state adopts the policy of not increasing the tax when output increases. That is to say, the state stabilizes its grain tax according to the output of a normal year for a certain period of time, say for five years. Within this period, if a production team increases its output, the tax will not be increased, but the state will be able to buy a little more, the collective will add to its reserves and the commune members will receive more grain. When natural adversity causes a drop in output, the state eases its grain tax accordingly. In case of a serious natural disaster, the state cancels the grain tax and makes no purchases; instead, it provides grain as needed.

The state encourages people in forestry, animal husbandry, fishing and industrial crop areas to grow a certain amount of grain while striving for success in their main line of production, and allocates grain from other areas to make up for any deficiency. The state not only guarantees the minority peoples in frontier areas a sufficient supply of grain but helps them vary their diet.

Supplying relief grain to areas stricken by natural calamities was one of the most serious social problems which, throughout China's past history, the ruling classes of successive dynasties were unable to cope with. Though most of the harvests in the 25 years since the founding of New China have been good, there were setbacks in some years resulting from serious natural disasters. Because of China's vast expanse and complex geographical conditions, even in a bumper harvest year drops in output were inevitable in a few areas affected by bad weather. The Party and the People's Government always show great concern for production and the people's livelihood, and they see to it that those in the afflicted areas get enough food. During China's First Five-Year Plan (1953-57), the state provided such areas with 15 million tons of grain. When the worst flood in a century occurred in the Yangtze River valley, the state helped the people in the stricken areas tide over their difficulties in production and everyday life by sending in five million tons of grain from over 20 provinces and regions, including northernmost Heilongjiang, southernmost Kwangtung and Szechuan in the southwest. The people said: "This is the biggest flood in a century, but we have the best government in China's history." The provinces of Hopei, Shantung and Honan, prone to natural disasters over the centuries, received state grain every year until they became self-sufficient. Over ten million tons of grain were sent to Hopei Province alone during 1949-67, with all freight costs borne by the state. This fully demonstrates the spirit of "co-ordinating the efforts of the whole nation as in a chess game" and demonstrates the superiority of the socialist system.

Store Grain Everywhere

Following Chairman Mao's instruction to "dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony," the Chinese people have gradually increased their reserves by using grain in a planned, economical way. While the state has stored a certain amount of grain, many production teams and brigades and peasant households have their own reserves.

On several occasions the state has raised the purchasing price of grain while keeping the selling price stable in order to increase the peasants' income and promote farm production. The present purchasing prices are nearly double the 1950 figures, whereas the selling prices have remained stable for more than two decades. The differences between increased purchasing prices and unchanged selling prices are covered by the state, as are all the costs of management including storage and freight.

Building Oil Industry Through Self-Reliance

— A visit to the new oil pipeline as well as Taching and Takang Oilfields (I)

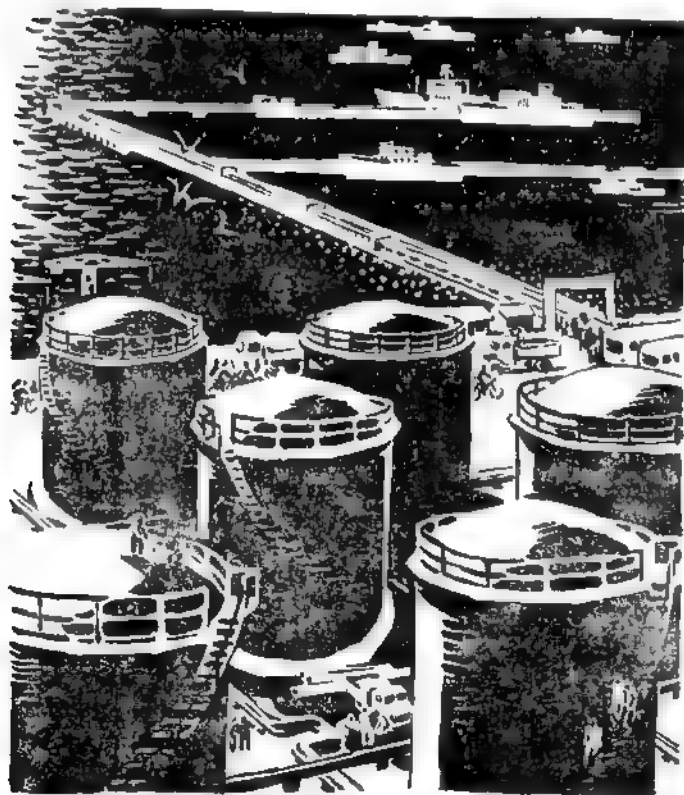
by Our Correspondents Hsiang Jung and Yu Hai

WHAT matter if we have to face some difficulties? Let them blockade us! Let them blockade us for eight or ten years! By that time all of China's problems will have been solved." (Farewell, Leighton Stuart!) These were the words Chairman Mao said about the imperialist blockade and embargo against China on the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

The development of this country's oil industry through independence and self-reliance fully attests to the truth of Chairman Mao's thesis.

Chinhuangtao — Terminal of the Pipeline

We were at Chinhuangtao, a port on the Pohai Sea, not long ago visiting the oil dock that was finished a



A View of the Oil Dock. by the amateur graphic art group of Chinhuangtao workers and staff

year ago. Amid the roar of oil pumps, the docked tanker *Taching 16* was waiting for crude oil to be loaded into its tank.

Among those who met us were 53-year-old deputy-captain Fel Hsin-an and several young people. The sailors told us: Since 1973 National Day, when China's first "underground artery"—the 1,152-kilometre-long oil pipeline of large calibre from the Taching Oilfield through Heilungkiang, Kirin, Liaoning and Hopei—was put into operation, they have often gone there for oil. Compared with former days when they waited in another port for the oil brought by train, this saved much time in transporting the oil to refineries of Shanghai and Nanking and Kwangtung Province in south China.

The veteran deputy-captain told us that he started his life at sea as early as 1946, before liberation. That was a time when sometimes he passed at sea the few China-owned oil tankers coming back loaded with imported petroleum. Now during voyages he frequently spots China's tankers filled with Chinese crude oil. Domestic-built 24,000-ton and 15,000-ton tankers have replaced the small ones of 1,000 or 1,500 tons in early post-liberation days. In addition, foreign oil tankers dock to load oil for their countries. . . .

China's petroleum industry has developed swiftly.

In the 42 years, 1907-48, since the first oil well was drilled in Yenchang, Shensi, altogether 123 exploratory wells and 45 producing wells had been drilled. They produced less than 100,000 tons of crude and very little natural gas annually. Until liberation, the country only owned eight out-of-date drilling rigs, two small, poorly equipped oil enterprises in Yenchang and Yumen and a few run-down small refineries. In the eyes of the imperialists, China was totally incapable of developing her oil industry because Western geologists had asserted: No petroleum resources could possibly be found in most of China's area because of the types of rocks and the eras when the sedimentation formed.

Since the founding of New China, work has been done to restore and develop old oilfields and the opening up of new ones got under way. During 1958, the year of the Great Leap Forward of socialist construction, the

oil front also was one of great activity. Over 900 geological surveying and prospecting groups organized all over the country found in many provinces lots of places with oil-bearing strata or indicating oil and gas.

Building up the Taching Oilfield was a major turning point in the development of China's oil industry. It was started in 1960. In the first year the area and the deposits of the oilfield was basically known, and in less than three years Taching had been built to become China's first-rate modern petroleum industry base. By 1963, the country had become basically self-sufficient in petroleum products.

In the wake of Taching, the opening and building of another big oilfield — the Shengli Oilfield — began. In 1964, work on still another new one — the Takang Oilfield — also went on swiftly. China's crude oil output increased remarkably over successive years and the refining industry has progressed correspondingly. By autumn 1970, the laying of the long-distance pipeline began.

Seeing the oil tankers standing alongside the docks and the long string of railway oil tanks and comparing today with the scene in out-of-the-way villages where imported kerosene was used more than 20 years ago, we cannot but recall the famous line in a poem written by Chairman Mao at Paltaiho, a summer resort in Chinghuangtao, "The autumn wind is sighing" still today — The world has changed!"

Famous Taching Oilfield

How did China develop her oil industry? The famous Taching Oilfield and Taching spirit supply the answer.

From Chinghuangtao we went to Taching, the starting point of the pipeline. It is quite a big oilfield. In our interviews, we emphasized talking with the outstanding drilling team No. 1205. Led by young team leader Kao Chin-ying, it is taking part in opening up a new area of the oilfield. Rows of white well houses dotting the green grassland led us to the new area. Towering rigs and roaring drilling machinery added to the busy scene we saw from the highway. The giant rig standing at the farthest end of the area was our destination. Members of the No. 1205 team proudly recounted its history.

The first team leader, the late "Iron Man" Wang Chin-hsi — an outstanding representative of China's working class — had been transferred to Taching from the Yumen Oilfield in the northwest's Kansu Province together with the team.

The bigger of the only two oil enterprises in old China, Yumen had been set up in 1938 with imported equipment by the Kuomintang reactionary government. Since the reactionary government was corrupt and incompetent and the oilfield's officials had no concern for construction but for embezzlement, the place was run-down and technically backward. Blow-outs often occurred. Labour conditions for the "oil blacks" — as the oil workers were called then — were terrible and

they were often victims of freezing, starving, beatings or other punishment. Out of fear that the coerced workers would run off or resist, oilfield police were hired. During work, the workers were dogged by police on horseback and foremen with clubs. Born in a poor-peasant family in the rural area of Yumen, Wang Chin-hsi became a coolie in the oilfield at the age of 15.

Since liberation, the oil workers have become masters of the oilfield which was quickly restored and expanded. Cultivated by the Party, Wang Chin-hsi soon was a rig operator and then leader of the drilling team.

In spring 1960 when China encountered serious natural disasters, the imperialists, modern revisionists and all reactionaries took the opportunity to combine their anti-China efforts. The perfidious Soviet revisionist renegade clique tore up contracts, withdrew their experts and put pressure on China. This was when the news that Taching had been discovered spread to Yumen and the whole oilfield was astir. Workers vied with each other to go open up the new field. Group after group hurried to Taching with equipment, among them the No. 1205 drilling team led by Wang Chin-hsi.

Taching then was just a large stretch of wasteland. Big difficulties cropped up as tens of thousands of people suddenly poured in — no equipment, no roads, and even food and living quarters were problems. But Chairman Mao had put it well: "Will the Chinese cower before difficulties when they are not afraid even of death?" (*Farewell, Leighton Stuart!*) The workers studied Chairman Mao's philosophical works *On Contradiction* and *On Practice*, seeking answers to the difficulties. They said: "Of all the difficulties and contradictions, the biggest difficulty is that our country now lacks oil and the sharpest contradiction is that the imperialists, revisionists and reactionaries want to throttle us. It's true we have problems. But if we stop opening up the oilfield, our country will have no oil and will meet even more."

Wang Chin-hsi led the workers in battling all kinds of difficulties. When the drilling rig had arrived, no hoist was ready. The workers used their shoulders and ropes to erect the rig. When no water tank was at hand as drilling started, they used basins to supply the machinery with water. In less than six days the team had drilled the first oil well in Taching.

Wang Chin-hsi never left the well-site during those rugged days. Sleepy, he only took a short rest with drills for a pillow and when he was hungry, he just swallowed some bites of dry food. Comrades watching him get thinner advised him to pay attention to his health. He replied: "I'm determined to vanquish the oilfield even if it means cutting my life span by 20 years!" The villagers living in the vicinity of the well-site saw all this. One old woman told the workers: "Your team leader Wang is a real iron man!" Hence the name "Iron Man."

Taching workers, cadres and technicians have combined soaring revolutionary drive with a strict scientific attitude. In line with the principle that knowledge

comes from practice, they did much careful investigation and research work instead of having blind faith in textbooks or foreign data, blazing the trail of building a big oilfield in China by being independent and self-reliant.

The Taching Oilfield was opened up within a short period of less than three years, and China's oil industry took a big step forward.

Taching has been striding ahead in the last 14 years with the average annual increase of crude oil at 31 per cent. As far as the production of crude is concerned today's Taching is five times bigger than it was in 1965, the year before the Great Cultural Revolution.

A new generation of oil workers is maturing. Most of those in drilling team No. 1205 now average 23 years old. They are the ones, encouraged by the spirit of the "Iron Man," who set the annual drilling footage record of 127,000 metres in 1971. The next year saw them make a new record by boring a well with one drill in a single day. Again it was this team that drilled the first well in the new area of the oilfield in 1973.

We went to a newly formed women's drilling team near the team No. 1205. In the past, Taching had only women's extraction teams, and no such drilling team. Some of these young women had grown up in Taching, some came from big cities including Shanghai. We found them just at the right time—they were drilling their first well. Although footage was increased comparatively slowly and problems came up, the young political instructor waved her hand: "We are fully confident!"

Chairman Mao has highly appraised the revolutionary spirit of Taching's working class. In 1964, he

issued the great call to the country: "In industry, learn from Taching." The Taching spirit has not only spurred China's oil industry on, but pushed all industry ahead along the road of independence and self-reliance.

"Mass Battle"

We often heard people in Taching talk about the "mass battle" of 1960 by which they opened up the big oilfield. Production later was expanded as a result of several similar "mass battles" like that one.

"Mass battle" is the application in construction work of Chairman Mao's military thinking on concentrating a superior force to wage an annihilation war. It means under the Party's centralized leadership, all the manpower and material forces of various areas and different branches are concentrated in order to swiftly complete the key construction project. In our socialist society, there is nothing like mutual deception and rivalry between enterprises, let alone monopoly, patent or keeping advanced techniques secret. Therefore we can organize "mass battles" in which everyone co-ordinates and contributes his forces with the common aim of quickening socialist construction.

The pipeline from Taching to Chínhuangtao had to cut across many hills, over 260 big and small rivers, 40 rail lines and 200 highways. The key for the entire project was laying pipes under the Nunchiang River and it was completed after a "mass battle." Chang Hung-fei, Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Taching Oilfield and general director of the headquarters in charge of the pipe laying under the river, gave us a vivid account.

The state's decision to lay the pipeline was given on August 3, 1970. The river freezes every year in early November and pipes had to be laid across before the freezing weather set in, otherwise progress on the whole project would be hindered if the opportunity was lost. The river is 400 metres wide, with a deep, swift current. And putting down an oil pipeline of large calibre under a river had never been done in China. Time was essential and the task was heavy. What was to be done? The headquarters organized a "mass battle."

Some 2,000 people took part including technical workers, the militia from nearby villages, men of the

(Continued on p. 29.)



The Battle to Build the Taching Oilfield.

by Shen Yao-yi



▲ **Marching in Step Leads to Victory.**

(Chairman Mao promulgating in 1928 the Three Main Rules of Discipline and the Eight Points for Attention to the Chinese Red Army in Shaien, Kueitung County, Hunan Province)

by Kao Hung, Peng Pin and Ho Kung-teh



▼ Her Footprints Are Found in
(A woman doctor on her way to the mountains)
by Chao Jun in Yangtze

踏遍青山寻药草
女医生在山间



Look! A New Hilltop!

(Carrying an outside machine, a platform trailer made by Shanghai on a highway in the mountains)

by Shanghai loader Hsueh Chai Pen-shun, sailor Yehench worker Ho Ting-ho



▲ The Refinery in Morning

Every Tunnel.
ounds in a coal-pit.)
chi, an electrician
in



uge black-claw
kers moves along
Chi cheng, driver
y Nan jing and



unlight.

by Sui Kuei-min, a worker in Luta



▲ Continuous Fighting Without Rest.

(A P.L.A. fighter on manoeuvres writes a criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius during a break.)

by Shang Ting, a fighter

Scene in a People's Commune.

by Cheng Min-sheng, a
peasant in Hahsien
County



▶
The Brigade's Chicken Farm.
*by Ma Ya-li, a peasant
 in Huhsien County*



■
Lifting the Huge.

(Using three small cranes simultaneously
 instead of a big one, shipbuilders success-
 fully attach the stern of a ship to its hull)
*by Li Kuo-fu, an electric welder
 in Luta*

Paintings by Workers, Peasants And Soldiers

by Chun Wen

LAST year's Exhibition of Paintings by Workers of Shanghai, Yangchuan and Luta and the 1973 Exhibition of Paintings by Peasants of Huhsien County that took place in Peking were a review of the flourishing art produced by amateur worker-peasant-soldier artists. The eight paintings in the special pictorial section of this issue are mostly selected from these two exhibitions.

Paintings by peasants of Shensi Province's Huhsien County, which has obtained good results in learning from the Tachai Production Brigade, the national pace-setter in agriculture, first appeared in 1958. At present nearly 700 amateurs are engaged in creating works of art. In Shanghai, China's largest industrial city, and in Yangchuan, a new coal city in Shansi Province, as well as in the port city of Luta in Liaoning Province, more and more workers have taken to painting and other art activities in their spare time along with the development of revolution and production since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution started in 1966.

The paintings of Huhsien County's peasants are characterized by their clear-cut and profound political content and fresh and unique artistic style depicting thriving scenes in China's new socialist countryside. Workers' paintings from Shanghai, Yangchuan and Luta have created the images of dauntless proletarian heroes who are full of vigour and revolutionary ardour.

Both exhibitions vividly show that art has been liberated from the confines of a few artists' studios. The working people of China not only produce material wealth for the society, but are also creators of socialist culture and art. This is a notable achievement of the profound revolution in the field of art under the guidance of Chairman Mao's line in art and literature.

Why Do They Take Up the Brush?

Workers and peasants in the old China could scarcely get enough to eat, so how could they have the leisure for painting? Now that they are emancipated, they feel an urge to write poetry and music and to paint to express their love for the new life and their confidence in a still brighter future. It is no accident that the Huhsien peasants took to painting during the Great Leap Forward year of 1958 when the countryside was bustling with activity.

But class struggle has not ended in the historical period of socialism, and it is especially acute in the realm of ideology.

After liberation, owing to the pernicious influence of the revisionist line pushed by Liu Shao-chi, Chou Yang and their followers, many Communists in literary and art circle were enthusiastic in promoting feudal and capitalist art, but not socialist art. Before the Cultural Revolution started in 1966, works of art that preached feudalism, capitalism and revisionism flooded exhibitions and publications and infiltrated into the people's life from all sides, corrupting people's minds.

Until 1964, most of the paintings Huhsien peasants could get in the bookstores preached the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius. They didn't care much for these pictures which had no resemblance to their lives. Some peasants who liked to draw began painting pictures depicting their new life. These were warmly received by the masses.

There is the story in Luta of a worker-artist called Yen Feng-chiao who saw two primary school children on the street while he was bicycling to work. Both children refused to make way for him even when he rang his bell. Yen fell from the bike while trying to avoid bumping against them. After picking himself up, he saw that they were completely lost in an old serial picture book preaching feudal and superstitious ideas. The incident made this worker-artist think a lot and got him to take his brush to fight the old ideas. He finished five picture story-books for children in succession in his off hours.

One peasant amateur in Huhsien gave the reason why he took up the brush. He said: "We have to occupy the ideological and cultural positions in the countryside with socialism." "We workers," said a Shanghai worker-artist, "must keep an eye on what goes on in the superstructure. If we don't, bourgeois ideas will spread unchecked and there will be a capitalist restoration."

Militant Art

The amateur worker-peasant-soldier artists work and fight in the three great revolutionary movements—class struggle, struggle for production and scientific experiment. With a pick, hoe or rifle in one hand and a brush in the other, they have produced a large number

of varied works by adhering to the orientation that art and literature should serve the workers, peasants and soldiers and serve proletarian politics. Their art is closely co-ordinated with central tasks at different periods and has greatly promoted revolution and production, fully playing the militant role of uniting and educating the people and attacking and destroying the enemy.

While the socialist education movement was being carried out in the countryside in 1964, an exhibition hall was set up in Huhsien County by 156 production brigades for class education. On exhibit were 1,006 picture story-books with a total of 12,000 pictures depicting the "three histories" (village history, family history of poor and lower-middle peasants and history of exploitation by the landlord class). An elderly poor peasant who had not gone through the exhibition the first day went again on the next. Standing in front of the paintings, he said tearfully to the youngsters around him: "Children, this is class struggle. Always keep it in mind!"

Since the start of the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, the amateur worker-peasant-soldier artists have used their brushes in active struggles. In a very short period art workers among the Yangchuan coal miners drew or reproduced 4,700 cartoons in 70 sets and 130 posters which were put up at every pit entrance and the locale of the work teams. Members of a workers' art group in the Shanghai Heavy Machinery Plant took their paintings to the workshops and the canteen for display. Standing in front of the pictures, some veteran workers poured out their grievances against the evil old society and repudiated Lin Piao's crimes in toeing Confucius' line — "restraining oneself and returning to the rites" — in his vain attempt to restore capitalism.

"Literature and art are subordinate to politics, but in their turn exert a great influence on politics." The Party committee of the Yangchuan Coal Mine asked the worker-artists to sketch 164 advanced personnel in the mine by way of commendation. When these went up on the honour boards, the workers were overjoyed and their enthusiasm for production increased. Some said with great feeling: "In the old society, the foremen kept close watch over us with batons. Now the worker-artists paint for us. What a world of difference between the old and new societies!"

Born in the great era of proletarian revolution, the Great Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, the art of the workers, peasants and soldiers directly serves proletarian politics, and is a vigorous new force with infinitely bright prospects.

The Lowly Are the Most Intelligent

The painting *Spring Hoeing* was widely acclaimed by spectators at the Exhibition of Paintings by Peasants of Huhsien County. Under warm spring sunshine,

a group of healthy and unpretentious women commune members are meticulously hoeing in a field of verdant wheat sprouts. Young swallows spread their wings for the first time. This poetic work was done by an ordinary commune member Li Feng-lan, mother of four children.

In the winter of 1958, Li Feng-lan applied to attend a training class in art run by the county Party committee at a reservoir construction site. Jokingly, someone asked her: "You're going to learn to paint? How will you be able to do it?" She said confidently: "Everyone has to learn before mastering a trade."

Knowledge comes from practice. Meantime, she has learnt to paint when not working in the fields. Diligent and hard working, she has turned out more than 300 paintings in 18 years.

The revolutionary writer Lu Hsun knew what he was talking about when he said: "There are many monsters and devils in China who like to kill those with promise." Swindlers like Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao did just that. They peddled reactionary fallacies such as the theory of "genius," the theory of "inspiration" and the Confucian fallacy that "the highest are the wise and the lowest are the stupid." The growth of Li Feng-lan and large numbers of other worker-peasant-soldier artists and the many good works they have produced forcefully refute the fallacies of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao.

The fiery struggle and the life of the people provide literature and art with an inexhaustible source, their only source. This is a truth. The most fundamental reason why the works of workers, peasants and soldiers are so numerous and are full of life is that the artists themselves know the life around them.

In line with the policy of "maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts," our shipbuilders made a 24,000-ton tanker. In the course of construction, the workers had to hoist the ship's 156-ton stern from the ground, turn it upside down in mid-air and then attach it to the hull. There was no heavy-duty crane on hand to lift such a weight. After repeated trials, they succeeded in using three small cranes simultaneously instead of a big one. The woodcut *Lifting the Huge* appearing in this issue was done by an electric welder in the shipyard. Deeply impressed by the workers' initiative, this amateur translated that moving scene and the workers' revolutionary spirit into a work of art. He took his draft to the dock and solicited the workers' opinions and he also asked professional artists for help. Revised again and again, the woodcut was put up in the shipyard's picture booth before the vessel was launched.

The oil painting *Continuous Fighting Without Rest* shows a P.L.A. soldier on manoeuvres writing by a tank a criticism of Lin Piao and Confucius during a break. A package of explosives is his desk. His perspiring brow, tightly-closed lips, angry look, one foot set firmly

against a tree and writing with great concentration all help bring this energetic soldier to life. The artist is himself a young P.L.A. fighter.

If the artists had no practical experience, no direct experience in the life and struggle of the people, how could they turn out moving works such as *Lifting the Huge* and *Continuous Fighting Without Rest*?

In his *Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art*, Chairman Mao pointed out: "Life as reflected in works of literature and art can and ought to be on a higher plane, more intense, more concentrated, more typical, nearer the ideal, and therefore more universal than actual everyday life." The principle that works of literature and art come from everyday life and are on a higher plane than everyday life has found vivid expression in the works of the worker-peasant-soldier artists. Huhsien County peasant painters have said: "We want to paint the reality and the ideal." The paintings *Scene in a People's Commune*, *The Brigade's Chicken Farm* and *Look! A New Hilltop!* by a Shanghai worker in this issue help the reader gain an insight into the unique method with which these amateurs have successfully combined revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism.

From their numerous works we can see their pioneering effort and creativeness in breaking away from naturalism, formalism and stereotyped rules and regulations. We can also see how they have assimilated and made use of the traditional techniques of Chinese and foreign art under the guidance of the policies of "making the past serve the present and foreign things serve China," and "letting a hundred flowers blossom; weeding through the old to bring forth the new." The arrangement and the brush work in the traditional Chinese painting *Look! A New Hilltop!* and the way of cutting and the shading in black and white in the woodcut *Lifting the Huge*, as well as the use of lighting, colour and bold and heavy strokes in *Continuous Fighting Without Rest* are all evidence of this.

The paintings by workers, peasants and soldiers have greatly inspired the professional artists whose mental outlook has undergone profound changes after being tempered in the Great Cultural Revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius. They are now more determined than ever to integrate themselves with the workers, peasants and soldiers. The contingent of proletarian artists made up of professionals and amateurs is growing. A more flourishing socialist art is in the offing.

Earth-Shaking Struggle

— New developments in Third World economic struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism

AN earth-shaking struggle is going on in the international economic sphere.

The former victims of enslavement, plunder, domination and exploitation, poor and small countries are resolutely and courageously making an "irresistible economic revolution" to remove the great mountains which have weighed heavily on them for centuries.

Today's Biggest International Exploiters

For long years, the imperialists claimed that they had "developed" the colonies and "fed" their people. The superpowers, in particular, in recent years have been dwelling on "interdependence" and "economic co-operation" between the developing countries and themselves. This is a big lie. In fact, imperialism, colonialism, and especially, the two superpowers today depend on exploiting the developing countries for their existence and wealth. There has never been any "interdependence."

Lenin pointed out that "the more capitalism is developed, the more strongly the shortage of raw materials is felt, the more intense the competition and the hunt for sources of raw materials throughout the

whole world, the more desperate is the struggle for the acquisition of colonies." Today the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are vying with each other in plundering and draining off raw materials in the world precisely the way Lenin described. With a population of less than 8 per cent of the world's total, the United States drains away nearly 40 per cent of the world's raw materials and energy resources. According to U.S. Department of the Interior statistics, over half the basic raw materials consumed in the United States were imported. These were aluminium, chromium, mercury and nine other kinds of raw materials essential to the U.S. economy. The Soviet Union is no less avid than the United States in plundering raw materials. Take Africa as an example. The Soviet Union imports at low prices iron ore, lumber and diamonds as well as large quantities of tropical fruit, foodstuffs, drinks, clothing and cotton from 35 countries.

"To seek the maximum profits" is the main motive behind the two superpowers' plunder of raw materials. Their contention for oil offers an obvious proof. According to Western press reports, soon after the end of World War II, the U.S. oil monopolies discovered that rich oil deposits in the Middle East, coupled with the high rate

of drilling success, cheap labour and low capital expenses, made exploitation highly profitable. Drilling expenses in Saudi Arabia were only one-thirtyfifth of those in the United States. As a consequence, the U.S. monopolies contend for exploitation in the Middle East, keeping the oil deposits in the United States in reserve. Even more reckless in their greed, the Soviet revisionists eagerly followed suit in the grab for Middle East oil, their methods being contemptible and their calculations more cunning. They provided economic "aid" and sold munitions at high prices to Middle East countries in exchange for low-priced oil and natural gas which they then resold to West European countries at colossal profits several times the costs in the deal.

The "interdependence" and "economic co-operation" thesis put out by the two superpowers is allegedly based on the proposition that benefit is mutual since they provide the developing countries with industrial products in return for raw materials. The well-known fact, however, is that prices of raw materials and industrial products have never been equitable. Besides, the scissors differential has been widening all the time and the exploitation has been becoming more ruthless. A telling example is Soviet revisionist trade with Asian, African and Latin American countries. Over the last ten years or more a Soviet jeep was first sold for the equivalent of 14 bags of coffee but later it climbed to 43 bags; the price of a tractor went from nine bales of cotton to 25 bales; a ton of steel products was first exchanged for a ton of bananas and later required four tons; and a sedan first took two tons of cocoa beans, later six tons. The Soviet revisionists have never traded on equal terms with Asian, African and Latin American countries. The trade is plunder pure and simple.

Exasperated by the unbridled pillage of their natural wealth, the Third World countries have cited indisputable facts at international conferences and in the public media to expose and condemn the exploitation they have suffered from the superpowers. These facts bring home to the people that the relations between the rich countries and the poor are those between exploiter and exploited and that the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are the biggest international exploiters today. This also makes clear that it is imperative to fight against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism in the economic sphere

New Feature

Waged through unity, mutual help and co-ordination, the fight against superpower exploitation and plunder in the field of economy is a new development and a new feature as well as a component part of the Third World countries' struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

Using oil as a weapon, the Arab countries, united as one, began an effective struggle against Zionism and

hegemonism in October 1973. With this struggle as an eye-opener, the developing countries adopted a new tactic: Unite to break the old economic trammels and overcome the superpowers which are powerful in appearance only.

These countries swiftly united to fight hegemonism on the economic front. This found expression in the struggle over the problems of raw materials and development at the Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly last April and May, in the fight to safeguard maritime resources and rights at the Third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea from June to August last year, and later in the united struggle on the problems of population and food and in the joint fight to protect natural resources and primary products in the Latin American and African regions. Fully demonstrating the infinite power of unity, these struggles have all pounded away at the superpowers while they have boosted the morale of the Third World countries.

Inspired by the victory of their joint struggle, international or regional organizations mushroomed. In the year 1974 alone, the Third World countries formed seven organizations of raw material exporting countries including those concerned with bauxite, iron, mercury, edible oil, sugar, bananas and meat. The participating countries total 42, almost equalling the total membership of several such organizations formed in the last 10 years. Meanwhile the old organizations are also growing in strength.

Chairman Mao pointed out: "The oppressed peoples and nations must not pin their hopes for liberation on the 'sensibleness' of imperialism and its lackeys. They will only triumph by strengthening their unity and persevering in their struggle." (Statement of August 29, 1963.) The Third World countries and people, with their rich experience in struggle, are more than ever aware of the strength of unity and the effect of a united struggle. They have thus found a clearer orientation and are carrying on their struggle with unshakable confidence and determination.

Struggle Against Plunder and Control Imperative

The developing countries have also reached the conclusion that after attaining political independence, they must struggle against plunder and control in the economic arena before they can defend legitimate national rights and interests, control natural resources and effectively consolidate and develop political independence.

This conclusion has come from long experience of struggle. Quite a few Third World countries found after independence that they still were at the mercy of others economically, because no basic changes had been made in the old economic structures and key branches of their economies remained under imperialist domination. Carrying out neo-colonialism, the superpowers, in particular, which ostensibly recognize the independence of these countries, in fact continue to regard them as

sources of cheap raw materials and outlets for unloading high-priced goods, exporting capital and shifting the burden of economic crises. Moreover, they openly interfere in the economic policies of these countries and violate their sovereign rights. They bring far more grave harm to the developing countries than did the old colonialists of the past.

In order to change this serious situation and in the light of their specific historical conditions and features, a large number of developing countries in recent years have begun to exercise their sovereign rights, taking positive measures to shake off step by step the economic control imposed on them by old and new colonialism, particularly the superpowers. After winning independence, many nationalized foreign-owned enterprises vital to their economies, such as banks, transport, power, insurance and imports and exports, or gradually increased their own shareholdings, set limits on foreign investments and the outflow of profits, enforced closer supervision and tightened controls over these enterprises. They also introduced stricter management of foreign trade, putting restrictions on imports and encouraging exports and gradually putting an end to the exchange of unequal values. The Latin American countries waged repeated struggles last year to protect their national resources. Some have systematically quickened the pace of nationalization of petroleum and iron ore step by step in accordance with their actual conditions. The Central American countries have increased taxation on banana exports as a measure against the U.S. monopoly companies' control and blackmail. The African countries have achieved marked successes in their struggle for the right to self-determination in the financial and monetary fields and foreign trade. In the early post-independence years, the Black African countries had neither banks nor the right to issue their own currencies and were in the grip of financial and monetary difficulties. Now, apart from a few countries which won independence late, they have gradually nationalized foreign-owned banks, set up national banks and issued their own currencies, thus successfully defending their right to financial self-determination. A number of countries have taken back plantations and farms from foreigners and banned by decree foreign ownership of land, thus securing control of the use of land resources.

Developing the National Economy

To completely get rid of the colonial yoke and gain full economic independence, the developing countries, while strengthening their economic struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism, are paying more and more attention to the development of the national economy.

In view of the existing abnormal single-product economies resulting from colonial rule, the countries have given top priority to agricultural development in order to achieve self-sufficiency in food. Deeply conscious of the strategic importance of food production,

they have formulated development policies with emphasis on agriculture. Positive measures that have been adopted include increasing agricultural investments, loans and subsidies, cutting farm taxes, energetically building water conservancy projects and improving farming techniques. The spirit of "Salongo" (labour) is advocated in Zaire to end reliance "on imported grain." Sri Lanka has launched a "food production drive" to "overcome food difficulties with one's own hands." Mexico stresses agricultural development as an urgent task, and the Guyana Government calls upon its people to give greater attention to agriculture so as to do away with dependence on food imports at an early date. These policies and measures are contributing to the growth of farm production.

Meanwhile, the developing countries also stress national industrial development as a way to gradually reduce and finally halt reliance on imported industrial products. With energetic support from their governments, small and medium-sized national industries in countries such as Zambia, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon and Ivory Coast have had gratifying results. In Tanzania, which has witnessed speedier development, textile mills, sugar and oil refineries, farm tool, cement and metal plants and rolling mills of small and medium size have been set up for the first time. The annual growth rate of industrial output value averages 10 to 15 per cent and the self-sufficiency rate in industrial products has gone up from 25 to 67 per cent.

In the course of developing their national economies, the developing countries have stepped up their economic co-operation and mutual assistance. Sixteen West African countries have founded a "West Africa Rice Development Association" with a view to promoting self-sufficiency in rice and have made strenuous efforts to train technicians and workers to popularize experience in rice growing. The Caribbean Community member states' agriculture ministers have met several times to discuss measures for achieving self-sufficiency in food.

Facts prove that the Third World countries have enormous potentiality for developing their national economies. They are fully capable of promoting industrial and agricultural production step by step with great results so long as they persistently follow the road of independence and self-reliance in accordance with their specific conditions. The pessimistic views spread by imperialism are utterly groundless.

The Third World countries' struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism in the economic sphere is unfolding extensively. However, imperialism, the superpowers in particular, will never take their defeat lying down. Habitually living on the fat of the land belonging to others, they will not lightly give this up. Now only a prelude, the struggle in the economic field is bound to be long and arduous. The Third World countries are summing up their experience and reinforcing their struggle. They are forging ahead victoriously.

Profound Change in Cambodian Military Situation

THE year 1974 saw a new profound change in the Cambodian military situation. The People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia rapidly grew in strength through fierce battles during the dry and rainy seasons and annihilated big numbers of Lon Nol's puppet troops, with an increase in cases of whole units of enemy effectives wiped out. Strongholds and provincial capitals under enemy control, encircled by the vast expanding liberated areas, are like sinking boats on a stormy sea.

Dry and Rainy Season Victories

The Lon Nol clique suffered disastrous defeat in 1974. More than 150,000 puppet troops were wounded, killed or captured during the dry and rainy seasons. Great quantities of U.S.-aid weapons and military supplies were captured by the people's armed forces; hundreds of thousands of litres of gasoline and millions of litres of diesel oil on the Mekong River were seized during the rainy season. Tens of thousands of people in enemy-controlled areas and puppet soldiers discontented with enemy rule went over to the liberated areas.

During the last dry season (winter 1973 and spring 1974), 50 per cent of the puppet troops were put out of action. Western newspapers disclosed that the number of soldiers in some divisions of the puppet main force was reduced to 50 to 60 per cent and many war-weary officers had quit their ranks. After serious defeats in the dry season, the Lon Nol clique pinned its hopes on counter-attacks in the rainy season (May-October). In early June, it mustered several divisions of armed forces outside the cities of Phnom Penh, Siemreap, Battambang and Svay Rieng and along a number of important transportation lines and launched the so-called "Me Barom Chey," "Dekcho 77" and "Delta 27" operations in an attempt to wipe out the main force of the people's armed forces, expand its defence circle around Phnom Penh and other cities and extricate it from its position in which it is easily attacked. But it underestimated the fighting capability of the people's armed forces who advanced despite muddy roads and rivers in spite. The scattered puppet troops were encircled ring upon ring and attacked on the perimeter of Phnom Penh, Svay Rieng, Siemreap and other cities. In less than three months, the enemy's rainy season plan had been frustrated and ended in failure and its defence circle

outside Phnom Penh and a number of provincial capitals had dwindled.

Lon Nol Clique in Deepening Crisis

Defeats on the battlefield led to the deepening of the economic crisis, the food crisis in particular, in the areas under the control of the Lon Nol clique. Cambodia's currency, the riel, was devaluated and rice prices rose sharply. The people's struggle in the enemy-held areas gained momentum. Even puppet troops who had retreated from the battlefield rose to seize grain from granaries because of hunger. In 1973 the puppet clique still could manage to get grain, though in limited quantities, from Battambang, an outlying province. The province was turned into a battlefield where intense fighting erupted during the 1974 rainy season and the clique's plan to obtain grain was seriously thwarted.

The rapid change in the military situation aggravated strife within the Phnom Penh regime. The dog-fight among a handful of traitors has become fiercer and fiercer. Although the United States did its utmost in 1974 to bolster the puppet regime, giving it 2 million dollars worth of ammunition and other material support a day, it could not prevent the clique's continued decline.

Entire Enemy Troop Units Wiped Out

The Cambodian people continued to learn warfare through warfare and constantly built up their forces during the year. The people's armed forces made many large-scale attacks along Highway 4 which leads to Sihanoukville, on Highway 5 linking Phnom Penh and Battambang, on the Mekong River, and on other main battlefields east, southeast and northwest of Phnom Penh. In these operations, they further raised their fighting capability and gradually learned how to wipe out enemy effectives in terms of units. They launched two successfully organized large-scale campaigns of annihilation and won splendid victories during the dry season. In the first 20 days of January, they wiped out over 11,000 enemy troops in their attacks around Phnom Penh and punished the third enemy division around the city so heavily that it disintegrated.

In April, they won a big victory in wiping out over 10,000 enemy troops, including a number of units of the enemy's main force, in the operation in O Dong and the trigonal area of Tep Pranam-Kompong Uong-Chetdel Themei near O Dong. The puppet 80th, 39th and

20th brigades, the "crack" units of the strategic defence forces as the Lon Nol clique boasted, were completely wiped out. The people's armed forces also hit the enemy and made a good battle record by using such flexible tactics as ambushing or encircling an enemy unit while attacking its reinforcements.

People's guerrilla warfare also greatly developed last year. In both the dry and rainy seasons, guerrillas in many places effectively co-ordinated with the main forces in fighting. In the vast liberated areas, they constituted an important force in smashing the enemy's "pacification" operations and defending the life and property of the people there.

Might of People's War

More than four years ago, the U.S. imperialists instigated the Lon Nol clique to stage a reactionary coup, provoking an aggressive war against Cambodia. Now, the raging flames of people's revolutionary war have spread to the gate of Phnom Penh, den of the traitorous clique. At the beginning, the Cambodian

people had only a small number of armed forces, but under the strong leadership of the National United Front and with the wholehearted support of the people, the armed forces have grown stronger through fighting. In more than four years' fighting, the strength of the Cambodian people's armed forces has increased dozens of times. They have become a strong force comprising regular forces, regional forces and guerrilla forces and are equipped with large quantities of U.S. weapons obtained from Lon Nol, "captain of transportation." With vast and solid liberated areas containing a large population, the Cambodian people have every condition available for a protracted war.

The war has tempered the people and the people have been victorious in it. The situation on the battlefields of Cambodia in 1974 further shows that the Phnom Penh traitorous clique rots with every passing day while things are getting better daily for the Cambodian people.

Sharp Class Polarization in Soviet Union

CLASS polarization is accelerating and the chasm between the rich and the poor widening in the Soviet Union today. This is the result of capitalist restoration in process of which the bourgeois ruling clique have arisen, an exploiting class whose greed knows no bounds. By controlling the party and state power and the means of production, they extract staggering profits, get high wages, high bonuses, high royalties and all sorts of allowances, and thus have incomes tens or even hundreds of times higher than those of ordinary workers or peasants. Yet all this fails to satisfy their avarice. It can be seen from the Soviet press that embezzlement, graft, theft, speculation and extortion have become the important ways for the privileged bourgeois stratum to amass fortunes. These social evils inherent in capitalism are sweeping across the country. Press reports have more or less revealed the truth, though they definitely do not give the whole picture of class polarization in the Soviet Union which is a biting mockery of the Soviet revisionists' self-labelled "socialism." Let us look at the following examples:

Clear Examples

The Ministry of Local Industry in Georgia "discovered a big case of several million rubles being stolen in recent years . . . leading party and economic officials have been led by the nose by black market speculators and become their loyal servants." In the same republic, "cases of massive theft of goods and materials, graft and extortion occurred in a number of departments in

the ministries of light industry, local industry, food industry and residents' consumer goods supply."

In Azerbaijan, "enterprises in the ministries of light, food and other industries and departments of transport, agriculture, commerce and service trades are shot through with theft and malpractice."

The chairman and vice-chairmen of the executive committee of the South Ossetia Regional Soviet milked "the inhabitants" by selling "rare building materials" allocated to the region by the republic, or indirectly transferred them for private use. In the period 1968 to 1972, "40 per cent of the timber, 28 per cent of the cement, 19 per cent of the slate and 48 per cent of the plywood were sold in this manner."

Land along the Black Sea coast, "gardens, houses and villas have all become objects of ruthless speculation" to "reap exorbitant profits and more material riches." Among those participating in such activities are leading members of the party, the Soviet, the agricultural and administrative organs, city military commissars, directors of police bureaus, district judges, chief architects, chairmen of collective farms and directors of state farms.

In cahoots with the chief accountant and a production director, the manager of a Baku fruit juice plant forged invoices for fruit purchases and transport and pocketed approximately one million rubles in three years by turning out "fruit juice" made of plain water and

sugar plus citric acid. The manager has large personal deposits in banks.

Leading members of a Tbilisi synthetic fibre plant ran an "underground plant" together with illicit merchants and "in a very short time" picked up a profit of 1.7 million rubles by selling on the black market goods they produced with the factory's materials and installations.

Working hand in glove with the chief accountant, the manager of a Moscow non-ferrous metal casting plant made it a practice to tell lies about having taken "emergency measures" to "fulfil" planned targets. They pocketed in this way 18,200 rubles as "material bonuses" in three months alone.

Leading members of the Zaharovskaia poultry farm near the city of Ryazan, in collusion with a shop, got more than 40,000 rubles in a fraudulent deal for hens. They tampered with the delivery invoice, changing first class hens into below standard lean hens, while actually selling the best-quality hens at very high prices. They lined their purse by selling at high prices large quantities of eggs they had entered as "natural spoilage" in the accounts. People called their business "hens lay golden eggs."

Dividing Spoils in Collusion

According to material in the Soviet press, strange things have been happening in the country which was led by Lenin and Stalin in the past:

The director of the Leningrad International Travel Service and some of his "intimate friends" pilfered 60,000 rubles worth of goods, including money and belongings of foreign travelers.

Leading members of institutions of higher learning were involved in taking bribes, carrying out extortion and selling examination papers, theses and forged certificates when the students were enrolled. Graft, bribery, blackmail and extortion are reported "prevalent in medical services for residents."

Such irregularities by these bourgeois elements have actually been winked at and shielded by the judicial personnel. They colluded closely with each other and divided the spoils among themselves. Many inspectors gave the embezzlers information. A case in point is an industrial combine in the Kaspi district. "In the month after inspectors from the ministry of local industry made an investigation, commodities and materials totalling over 34,000 rubles were reported missing."

The Soviet bourgeoisie has recklessly squandered the wealth created by the working people. Bourgeois elements have been enthusiastic in recent years about starting "a contest to see who can build a very modern house." "Many house builders, particularly those in leading positions, took advantage of their post and power to use building materials, machines, transport vehicles and workers in the enterprises and organs concerned to build their houses and villas." As a result, plushy private houses and villas "mushroomed everywhere." Apart

from magnificent drawing-rooms, some private houses and villas have billiard rooms, swimming pools and gardens with fountains. Others even have fine sculptures and marble stairs and bathrooms. One person spent over 500,000 rubles building a private house for only four residents. Privileged bourgeois elements have built on the outskirts of Moscow villas of various styles, some with "swimming pools, tennis courts, sports apparatus and clubs with dining rooms, cinemas and special shops." The Black Sea coast was "soon overcrowded with private houses and villas." In Sukhumi alone, there are a total of 4,158 house owners each in possession of 600-10,000 square metres of land. "Most have orange orchards and hothouses for growing flowers and early-ripening vegetables." The chairman of a collective farm in Armenia used its materials and exploited its members' labour in building his three-storeyed private villa with 616 square metres of floorspace.

Privileged Strata and Special Shops

Some privileged bourgeois elements can deposit scores of rubles at the beginning of each month in provision shops opened specially for them and then choose whatever best food they like there during the month. At such shops, they can buy "traditional Russian delicacies" and "provisions available in all department stores in the West." They can also fare sumptuously in high class special restaurants, spending several hundred rubles at a meal. Lazeshvili, a millionaire in Georgia, often gave sumptuous dinners — costing several thousand rubles each — at restaurants in Moscow, Kiev, Alma Ata and other cities. In league with other leading members, the director of the Yakusovsky State Farm in the Kaluga Region embezzled huge public funds which they spent on heavy eating and drinking. "Women cleaners removed several gunny sacks of empty wine bottles from their offices every week." In many places, "whenever committee men or a work team sent from above came to investigate work, endless extravagant feasts were prepared at the expense of collective farms, state farms, government organs and enterprises." Some privileged bourgeois elements each have several private cars, often imported because their owners are dissatisfied with domestic ones. They order the most fashionable suits from special shops and purchase "British suits, Italian neckties and perfumes from other countries."

A chieftain of one union republic recently said that in the Soviet Union today "economically, privileged elements and cliques have appeared" who have "big incomes." "How to grab money and make a fast ruble is uppermost in their minds." "These rich people have bought private houses and villas, easily got cars, built garages and rolled in luxury. They are commended in all forms, promoted and even elected to leading bodies of the party and Soviet."

These materials published in the Soviet press are mostly about goings-on in localities and certainly do not show the seamy side of the life of big shots in the central leading organ. Talking glibly about opposition

to making fortunes by "illegal means," the Brezhnev clique is merely lashing out at junior officials in an attempt to cover up its own crime of monopolizing the wealth of the whole country and leading the Soviet Union to the all-round restoration of capitalism.

Miserable Life of the Labouring People

Meanwhile, the masses of Soviet workers and peasants, oppressed and exploited by the new tsars, have no job security and guaranteed livelihood. Seeking high profits, managers of plants and enterprises, in accordance with the provisions of the Soviet revisionist "new economic system," "can decide on hiring and sacking workers, fix the wage scale, hand out awards or punishment to workers and staff members." Labour power has once again become a commodity in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet press has disclosed that large numbers of Soviet workers and staff members are fired every year. By stepping up exploitation and increasing labour intensity, the Shchekino Chemical Combine near Moscow has dismissed more than 1,300 workers in only a few years. The "Shchekino experience" has been widely publicized and popularized all over the country by the Soviet revisionist leading clique. The director of the mechanized engineering administration in Podolsk City, Moscow Region, constantly hurled abuse at workers and fired "all those who raised their voices against him or merely expressed their own views." When he was in office, "318 out of the whole staff of 350 people left their jobs." Of a total of 150 workers in a factory in Chelyabinsk, "120 were sent packing in a year." The leading officials of the Dushanbe Textile Combine very badly treated Galiya and other young women workers. Refusing to give in, she was kicked

out of the factory and her identity card taken away. She "roamed another city for two months," unable to find another job and a livelihood, and then committed suicide. Upon his assumption of office, the chairman of a collective farm in Smolensk "arrogantly began to issue orders and the collective's members were fined one after another." "One often saw such a notice: So and so is fined wages for so many work days, or 15, 20, or 25 rubles. It often happened that when you went to get paid, the money was deducted without your knowing why."

It is under these circumstances that there is a high fluidity of workers in the Soviet Union. Because of their miserable life, huge numbers of peasants have left their native places to find a livelihood elsewhere.

Lies Exposed

Despite their meagre income, the labouring people in the Soviet Union have to pay all kinds of taxes and levies. Statistics published by the Soviet revisionists show that the residential tax alone increased from 5,600 million rubles in 1960 to 15,000 million rubles in 1972. This tax takes up an increasing proportion of the total budgetary state revenue and of the total wages of the country's workers and staff. Moreover, under Soviet revisionist rule, consumer goods are in short supply. Prices of commodities, particularly foodstuffs, have gone up generally, with the cost of vegetables, potatoes, meat, animal oil, vegetable oil and sugar rising more steeply.

The striking polarization in Soviet society has exploded the myth spread by Brezhnev and company that "exploiting classes are non-existent" in the Soviet Union where "there are no classes and social groups which are antagonistic in their economic position."

(Continued from p. 16.)

airforce and navy, army engineer corps and navigation workers belonging to various units in five provinces.

Reconnaissance planes were sent to select the most suitable route for the pipeline. Navy shock brigades dived to the bottom of the river to look into the situation. The army engineer corps was responsible for the underwater blasting. Workers and young militiamen who did the welding and digging the trench by the river also worked intensely. To gain time, electric welder Wang Ti-chao worked 42 hours round the clock. The leadership several times told him to take a rest. But he replied: "In making revolution, one shouldn't mind how many hours of work there are. How can I leave here when the battle has not yet been finished?"

When the trench under the water had been dug up, pipes welded and all other preparatory work done, the decisive fight to lay the pipeline was ready to begin. The night before, all workers and staff talked over what unexpected problems might turn up when the actual operation began. After considerable discussion,

they thought of 57 emergency cases which might occur such as if the cable went wrong, if the pulley was out of order... even if the director suddenly got sick. They prepared for all these contingencies.

Before day-break the next morning, all concerned went to their posts ahead of time, waiting for the "order of attack." At ten sharp, the director gave the order to start. Amid shrill whistles and fluttering green signal flags, the pipeline went forward steadily. As noon approached, the head of the pipeline emerged above the water. The director's voice was heard over the loudspeaker: "Five metres... four metres... only one metre left... stop!" This "stop" announced the victory won in laying the pipeline across the river bottom. People on both banks were beside themselves with joy.

The "neck" of the pipeline had been pushed through. Technique and experience in laying an oil pipeline under a river had been gained. People were transferred to new posts to engage in new "battles."

(To be continued in our next issue.)

Disgraceful Episode

THE Soviet revisionists recently cranked up their propaganda machine to give much publicity to so-called "achievements" in mine sweeping by Soviet warships in Egypt's Gulf of Suez.

They asserted that their mine-sweeping operations showed their "loyalty to their internationalist duty" and was "a humane act to the Egyptian people." Knowing that these revisionists in Moscow, with honeyed words on their lips but scheming ambition in their hearts, habitually lie and commit evil, people can only ask: What all is behind these high-sounding words.

After reaching an agreement on disengagement of armed forces with Israel in January 1974, Egypt started preparations to reopen the Suez Canal. The two hegemonic powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, competed to take a hand in the matter, each trying to monopolize the clearing work. The Soviet revisionists, who had long had evil designs on reopening the canal, bargained that they would be wholly responsible for all clearing work provided that the cost was met by revenue from the canal. Egypt turned this down.

In February, the United States sent mine-sweeping personnel to Egypt to survey the canal. The Soviet revisionists immediately made concessions, and in March they said they would pay the cost if they were given immunity from taxation after the canal was reopened. Again, this unreasonable demand was rejected by Egypt. By that time, the United States had been given the task of clearing the canal. Greatly alarmed, the Soviet revisionists had to express their willingness to clear the gulf of the mines free of charge, but proposed that Egypt should produce a "written application." This was obviously an attempt to save their own face by putting Egypt in the position of an applicant. Naturally, their proposal was once more turned down. For all their intrigues, the Soviet revisionists had no alternative but to agree to do the Gulf of Suez mine sweeping.

This is the actual state of affairs! Instead of "a humane act," it is clearly a case of the strong taking the opportunity to bully and blackmail the weak; instead of being "loyal to their internationalist duty," the Soviet revisionist overlords obviously ignore the sovereignty of Egypt and attempt to make that country bow before them.

They must have calculated that since Egypt wanted to reopen the canal and sweep the mines, it would ask

them for help and therefore be left to their tender mercies. But the Soviet revisionists failed to see that Egypt is an independent state that has its dignity. It is only natural that the Egyptian Government and people categorically rejected the Soviet revisionists' blackmail. Another disgraceful episode was added to the long list on their record of reaching out everywhere only to be knocked about at every turn.

The Suez Canal, which connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, is a major international waterway of great strategic importance. During the more than one hundred years since its inauguration in 1869, it has been an object of rivalry between the imperialist powers. Over the past ten years or so, the Soviet revisionists, out of their ambition to contend with the other superpower for the Middle East and maritime hegemony, have worked hard to control the canal. Since it was closed after the June 5 war in 1967, the two overlords, actuated by their respective counter-revolutionary motives, have longed to see the canal reopened, with Soviet revisionism being the more eager. Western newspapers have pointed out that the Soviet revisionists' intention is to ensure that after the reopening of the canal they "will be in a favourable position to use the Suez Canal," linking their fleets in the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and the Pacific. One report said the Soviet Union will expand its "political and military activity in an area of the highest strategic importance" and especially strengthen its naval activities in the Indian Ocean, so as to carry out new and fiercer contention with U.S. imperialism.

It is precisely for covering up their ulterior motive and ugly performance that the Soviet revisionists turned on their propaganda machine to make a big fanfare about their Gulf of Suez mine-sweeping operations. They have tried to style themselves "the loyal and selfless friends of the developing countries." However, "there are true and false friends. But through practice one can tell the true from the false." The Arab people have had enough of the Soviet revisionists' tactics! Their double-dealing practices in the course of reopening the Suez Canal can only enable the Arab people to see more clearly their false friends' hypocritical features as social-imperialists.

*(A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent,
December 28, 1974)*

Workers' Struggle Surges Ahead

As the economic crisis and inflation continue to punch away at some of the major capitalist countries in the West, the struggle by the broad labouring masses in general and the working class in particular against exploitation and oppression is gaining momentum.

Shifting Burden on to Workers

In the economically hog-tied United States where the monopolies keep shifting the burden of crisis on to the working people, consumer prices went up 12.2 per cent in the 12 months ending last October, more than five times the average annual rate of increase in the 1960s. The U.S. working class has to tighten its belt more and bear the brunt of the economic crunch. Even according to data provided by the U.S. Labour Department, workers' average real wages in October, for instance, suffered a 4.9 per cent decline from that of a year earlier. Moreover, they also are facing the increasingly serious danger of being thrown out of work. Joblessness already has hit the six million mark, 34 per cent more than a year ago and comprising 6.5 per cent of the nation's labour force. The official estimate for 1975 is that unemployment is likely to reach 7.5 per cent or higher. While the working class finds itself daily worse off, corporate profits after taxes go up. In September they registered a 23 per cent increase over the corresponding period of 1973. Total profits after taxes for the whole year were estimated to be 90,000 million dollars, whereas those for all of 1973 were 73,000 million dollars.

Waves of Strikes

The U.S. working class has sprung into action against exploitation and onslaughts by the monopoly capitalist class.

According to official figures, there were 3,240 strikes involving 1.6 million men and women in the first half of 1974 (not including strikes by non-union workers and civil servants and strikes on a lesser scale). Walk-outs in the first seven months of 1974, described by a U.S. news agency as "the biggest wave of strikes to hit the country since the post-World War II years," brought a loss of 30 million work-days to the capitalists. Some U.S. bourgeois papers and journals said they were the biggest workers' strikes in certain trades and enterprises in the last hundred years.

Last year witnessed several big strikes involving more than 100,000 workers in each. In February, 100,000 independent truckers went on a strike that swept 42 states in protest against the jacking up of oil prices by

the monopolies and against government measures detrimental to their vital interests. In June, 110,000 workers of 750 garment factories in 100-odd cities scattered over 30 states held the first nationwide strike in the trade since 1921 to press for higher wages and demand that their pay increase in proportion to the rising cost of living. Nationwide strikes by 120,000 coal miners also took place first in August and again in November. Placards carried by miners on strike said: "Your coal, our blood!"

Fighting in Unity

Workers in the struggle have demonstrated an ever-increasing militancy and the spirit of unity and solidarity, which was characteristic of the U.S. workers' struggle in 1974. Suppression and deception by the capitalists and the authorities and sabotage and obstruction by top union leaders notwithstanding, workers in many industries persisted in their strikes for over a month, or even one to two years. They have won victories in one way or another and given a push to the workers' movement. Women workers and workers of minority nationalities, the most exploited and oppressed, showed high militancy in their struggles. Take the strike of 3,000 workers (mainly women and minorities) at the Farah Manufacturing Company in Texas for instance. Their fight for the right to set up their own union to protect their interests went on for 22 months despite police suppression. The management was finally compelled to recognize for the first time the workers' union there. This gave great impetus to the workers' struggle in the Southwest to set up or expand their own trade unions.

In their struggles, workers in different trades, white and black and those of other minorities, employed and unemployed, have strengthened unity among themselves and with people from other walks of life. Supporting each other, they spearheaded their struggle at monopoly capital. This shows that the political consciousness of the U.S. working class is being further enhanced.

Women Playing an Increasingly Big Role

Women workers are playing a noticeably ever more important role in the struggle. Thirty-two hundred representatives of women workers from 58 international unions in 40 states assembled in Chicago in March and organized the Coalition of Labour Union Women, the first women's union in the United States. A statement by the coalition said: "The primary purpose of this new national coalition is to unify women . . . We recognize

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ROUND THE WORLD

NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES

Imperialist Exploitation Opposed

The Inter-Governmental Group of the Non-Aligned Countries on Primary Commodities held its second session in Geneva at the end of last year. The forthcoming conference to study the problems of primary commodities, which will take place in Dakar, the Senegal capital, in January and February 1975, should take a series of measures to defend the developing countries' economic rights and interests and oppose imperialist exploitation and plunder, the group suggested.

In a report adopted at the session, the group also proposed that all possible measures should be taken at the Dakar conference to strengthen the role of the existing producers' associations of primary commodities and encourage the creation of other groups to deal in some other major commodities, which are of great significance to export by the developing countries. It also recommended that the governments of these countries set up machinery for consultations and co-operation among different groups in the interest of promoting mutual support and co-ordinating actions.

It further advised these governments to put forward common measures to be taken by the producers' associations to place restrictions on the trans-national corporations with a view to upholding the developing countries' sovereignty and interests concerning their natural resources.

The group stressed the need for the developing countries to adopt immediate concrete steps to strengthen economic co-operation according to the programme of action adopted at the 4th Summit of the Non-Aligned Countries in September 1973 and the resolutions adopted at the 6th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly and to take a common strategy and action in the field of raw materials and other primary commodities.

After analysing the economic difficulties confronting the developing countries, the representatives of the non-aligned countries told the session that the cause lay in the plunder by colonialism and neo-colonialism. The natural resources of these countries which are still exploited economically by the developed countries have been ruthlessly plundered for centuries. But, they pointed out, the few developed countries can no longer determine the world's destiny, especially that of the developing countries.

LAOS

Insurrection in Huoi Sai

Troops of the Vientiane side stationed in Huoi Sai City launched an uprising together with the local people on the night of December 23, the *News of Pathet Lao* reported.

It reported that the insurrectionists had occupied the entire city, arrested the governor and deputy-governor of Huoi Sai Province, municipal police chief and commander of Vientiane's 102nd battalion.

In a statement issued on December 24 the insurgent soldiers and people demanded among other things that the two sides in Laos completely implement the Vientiane agreement and protocol at the earliest possible date, and that the Provisional National Union Government accept, promulgate and apply the 18-point political programme and dissolve the Vientiane Assembly as soon as possible.

NEPAL

India Condemned for Damaging Nepalese Interests

Indian authorities' act of building the Kosi project at the expense of Nepal's interests has been exposed and condemned by the Nepalese National News Agency (R.S.S.) and the press.

Flowing through gorges into India, the Kosi, Nepal's biggest river, used

to cause floods and waterlogging in India's Bihar State. In accordance with an Indian-Nepalese agreement, a barrage was built in 1954 on the river in Nepalese territory by the Indian side to control the flow of water into India. An eastern irrigation canal was constructed southward from the dam to Indian territory.

A recent R.S.S. article said: "During the last 15 or 20 years, beneficial schemes under the Kosi project have all been centred on the Indian side. Irrigation of 1,834,000 acres of land in Bihar from the eastern canal of the Kosi project started some years ago. This has increased the income of Bihar to a considerable extent." Compared with the area irrigated in India, however, the irrigation facilities that Nepal enjoys have been negligible since the building of the barrage and the irrigation canal.

The Chatara canal in Nepal has been constructed in a very weak and undependable way. Work did not proceed according to schedule, and moreover, completed earthen construction had collapsed or had been damaged in several places before it could be turned over to Nepal. Nevertheless, the Indian side has all along been trying to hand the canal over to Nepal. If it is accepted in its present condition, Nepal will have to spend millions of rupees a year for operation and maintenance. This would be a permanent burden on Nepal.

The weekly *Everest* said that since the construction of the Kosi barrage, Nepal has lost some 60,000 tons of grain yearly from floods, in addition to the loss of some 10,000 tons of grain from the land occupied by the project. On the other hand, India not only has got rid of floods, but grain output in the area has increased greatly every year.

"ROTER MORGEN" (GERMANY)

Behind "Selfless Sacrifice"

Roter Morgen, organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany (M-L), recently carried the article "The Social-Imperialists Plunder the German

Democratic Republic," an expose of Soviet social-imperialism's exploitation and plunder.

The article said that Soviet leaders prated about their credits to the G.D.R. and other countries and considered the supply of their raw materials to these countries to be a "selfless sacrifice." "But the credits they offered in the form of commodities were based on prices higher than on the world market. Besides, they demand interest as high as 7 per cent." It added: "But these are not all the facts. The aim of the credit policy pursued by the Kremlin revisionists is, first of all, to make the economy of the G.D.R. dependent upon the economy of the Soviet

Union. Their credits have been used mainly for construction of enterprises which can turn out products favourable to them. For instance, they provided credits to the G.D.R. for building and expanding shipbuilding yards. The Soviet Union supplied the G.D.R. shipbuilding industry with the most important raw materials and auxiliary materials at exorbitant prices, while most of the ships built by the G.D.R. went back into the hands of its Soviet protectors — of course at prices below those on the world market. Within three and a half years, the Soviet Union took 230 ships of different tonnage out of the G.D.R. During that period its own shipbuilding yards were busy build-

ing warships for military expansion by the Soviet social-imperialists."

"In the period 1960-67, the Soviet Union exported refined oil to the G.D.R. at prices twice those for oil exported to the Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France and Japan, while it imported commodities from the G.D.R. at prices often below those on the international market. As in the case of ships, it imported all other commodities from the G.D.R. at prices lower by 18-34 per cent than those of the same commodities imported from the F.R.G. The Soviet Union imported tanning and textile machinery from the G.D.R. at 20-30 per cent below international market prices," the article said.

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that our struggle goes beyond the boundaries of this nation and seek to link up with our working sisters and brothers throughout the world. . . ." The U.S. weekly *Guardian* said that the formation of this coalition was a "new breakthrough" which would advance women's political consciousness.

Gathering Storm

Waves of strikes have also swept Britain and other West European countries.

In Britain, strikes in the first eight months of 1974 involved 1,036,000 workers, costing the monopolies 9,869,000 work-days, a figure greater than the year-total for 1973. After a three-month slowdown, 270,000 coal miners began a nationwide general strike in February, which lasted a whole month. In May, over one million engineering workers staged the biggest general strike in years since 1957.

In France, 801,000 workers had taken part in strikes by the end of July. The monopoly capitalists suffered a loss of 2,269,900 work-days, around 17 per cent above the same period of 1973. On November 19, several million workers in the postal, transport, auto, steel, metallurgical, chemical and other industries as well as those of the French Electricity and Gas Company held massive strikes throughout the country. This was the biggest strike and demonstration in France in the last few years.

In Italy, strikes involving hundreds of thousands or one million workers upwards broke out one after another. By November there had already been three nationwide general strikes, each involving more than ten million workers. This was unprecedented since the beginning of the 1970s. Strikes in the first ten months of the year cost the Italian capitalists more than three times as many work-days as in 1969.

In the Federal Republic of Germany, the number of work-days the capitalists lost owing to strikes in the first half of the year almost doubled that of the whole previous year. The biggest and most extensive strike in its history was the February strike by workers in nearly all departments of the public utilities across the country.

In Spain, tens of thousands of workers downed tools on December 11 all over the country in protest against rising prices and asking for higher wages. They included about 50,000 workers in northern Spain embracing the provinces of Guipuzcoa, Vizcaya and Navarra; most of the industries in Navarra were paralysed by the strike.

The last few years have witnessed an increasing number of strikes in Northern Europe which had been relatively quiet. This trend continued in 1974. Two hundred thousand Danish workers went on a nationwide strike in May in protest against the bill on sales-tax increases which would send up prices further. Some 100,000 people demonstrated in Copenhagen and other cities in November, protesting against sharply rising unemployment. Spontaneous strikes on a minor scale, hitherto very rare in Northern Europe, broke out frequently in Sweden in 1974.

The vigorous upsurge of the strike movement in the United States and Western Europe over the year 1974 is a reflection of the capitalist system's deepening economic crisis and sharpening class contradictions. It manifests the new awakening of the working class and the broad masses of other labouring people in these countries. Their struggle has the monopoly groups in a panic and led to extreme political unrest there. All this is an important indication of the prevailing excellent world situation which can be described by a Chinese verse: The wind sweeping through the tower heralds a rising storm in the mountains.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Prospecting for Underground Resources

ONE important 1974 development in geological prospecting in China was the use of floating drilling rigs to find new mineral resources for building up a modern industry. Significant headway was also made during the year in hydro-geological surveying to meet the rising needs of a rapidly developing agriculture. Hydro-geological survey was carried out systematically in the arid areas in north China's 17 provinces and municipalities. New ground water sources were found in water-short bedrock mountain areas and on loess highlands. Discovery and exploitation of new water sources in recent years have reinforced these areas' ability to combat drought and have brought about a big advance in agricultural production.

In 1974, the fourth year of China's Fourth Five-Year Plan, several hundred thousand geological workers ranged far and wide for minerals, from northeast China's Heilungkiang to the Tibetan Plateau in the southwest and from the Inner Mongolian grasslands in the north to the South China Sea coast. They located more than 100 workable ore-bearing points, including petroleum, coal, iron, phosphorus and rare metals. Systematic regional geological surveys were also conducted by various provinces and autonomous regions. The scope of the surveying and the number of regional geological maps and charts completed were the biggest in China's history.

Since the birth of New China great efforts have been made to survey and exploit underground resources in a planned manner so as to carry out economic construction based on China's own resources.

A vast number of mineral deposits have been discovered across the land in the last 25 years. The more than 100 useful ores known in the world have been found in this country and large-scale surveys have pinpointed huge quantities of reserves to meet industrial and agricultural require-

ments. China ranks high in the world in known reserves of a dozen ores. Its petroleum, coal, iron, copper, phosphorus and sulphur reserves account for an important part of the world's total.

China's metallurgical, power, building materials and chemical industries get most of their fuel and raw materials from the country's own resources. The location of large quantities of underground resources has greatly improved the distribution of the country's prospected resources and so the geographical distribution of industry, which in the past was concentrated in the big coastal cities. All provinces, municipalities directly under the central government and autonomous regions now have quite a number of industries and have discovered various mineral deposits.

China's experience and achievements show the importance of relying on one's own forces to prospect and exploit mineral resources and set up reliable raw material supply bases to develop the national economy in accordance with the principle of independence and self-reliance.

The rich mineral resources of old China lay unused deep below the ground. Imperialist powers plundered our resources before 1949 and at the same time deliberately spread the lie that "China is poor in minerals." The Kuomintang reactionaries obsequiously acquiesced and acted slavishly before their imperialist masters, so that on the eve of country-wide liberation, only 18 kinds of ore had been surveyed, but their reserves were not determined.

A developing socialist country, New China holds that the only way to develop its economy is to make use of its own natural resources, and not by relying on imported raw materials, and never through plundering the resources of other countries as is in the case with the imperialist and social-imperialist countries.

Extensive mineral deposits found after liberation gave the lie to the

imperialist allegation that China was minerally deficient. Coalfields have been opened in coastal southeast China and areas south of the Yangtze River, where it had earlier been said there were no coal beds. Coal reserves verified in the eight years since the beginning of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution were more than double the amount established in the previous 17 years.

By combining the efforts of the masses with those of geological workers, prospecting is done with greater, faster, better and more economical results. Many important deposits now being tapped were first found by the masses and then verified by geologists.

Hundreds of geological teams made up of tens of thousands of geological and technical personnel and hundreds of thousands of workers and staff members are now engaged in regional geological surveys, searches and prospecting for mineral ores, as well as petro- and hydro-geology, engineering geology and geophysical surveys. In old China there were only about 200 geological and technical personnel and 800 other workers doing such work.

New China's contingent of geological workers comes from the dozen and more new geological institutes and schools and geological departments in about a dozen universities. Worker-peasant-soldier students enrolled in geology in 1974 constituted the largest contingent since the beginning of the Cultural Revolution. More important is the method of relying on the experienced geological workers to give systematic training during field work to young people.

China attaches great importance to mobilizing the masses, the peasants in particular, to find and report ore deposits and outcroppings. The people are full of enthusiasm for socialist construction and are very familiar with the mountains, streams, earth formations and rocks in their locality. Many counties, people's communes and brigades have set up groups to collect leads to minerals underground. Many production teams also have delegated people to this work. People look for mineral deposits while building water-control projects, railways, roads, and on farmland im-

provement projects and when planting trees. Sometimes during slack farming seasons, extensive searches are organized to discover minerals in the mountains. Geologists often call in on villages to give instructions on how to identify various ores. Hunters in the forests and herdsmen on the grasslands are able assistants of geologists in their work.

China produced no geological prospecting equipment at all before liberation; today it has a dozen large — many more are small and medium-sized — factories manufacturing such equipment and instruments. China's large geological force is being outfitted with different equipment and instruments for prospecting from the air, in the sea and above and below the land surface. Geological departments alone now have more than 400 times as many drilling machines as in the early post-liberation years.

Transportation on Kweiyang-Kunming Railway

TRAFFIC is busy on the important trunk railway line linking Kweiyang with Kunming, the capitals of

Kweichow and Yunnan Provinces respectively in southwest China. Thriving scenes meet the eye every day along its various sections. Under the impetus of the movement to criticize Lin Biao and Confucius, 25 stations along the line, including Hsuanwei and Fenghuangshan, had fulfilled their 1974 transport quotas by the end of last November.

This is the first trunk line connecting Yunnan in China's southwestern frontier region with other provinces in the hinterland. Six hundred and forty-three kilometres long, it has since its completion in 1966 not only brought happiness to the people of various nationalities in Yunnan and Kweichow but also greatly improved communications in these two provinces.

The Yunnan-Kweichow Plateau has a complicated topography characterized by precipitous mountains and deep ravines. A trip from Kweiyang to Kunming by bus used to take five days; now travelling by train has shortened the time to about 10 hours. The Kweiyang-Kunming line is connected with the Chengtu-Kunming (completed in 1970), Chengtu-Kweiyang and Chengtu-Chungking lines,

forming a railway network in southwest China. This network, which is linked with other trunk lines, has greatly improved communications between southwest China and other parts of the country.

Since the Kweiyang-Kunming line was opened to traffic over eight years ago, Peking, Shanghai, Tientsin and other industrial cities have sent enormous quantities of rolled steel, equipment and construction materials to Yunnan and Kweichow; and in return, non-ferrous metals, coal, timber, phosphate ore and agricultural and side-line products — in which both provinces abound — are shipped out in a constant stream.

In the past, absence of railway communication compelled Yunnan to depend heavily on truck transport. Some 5,000 vehicles shuttling to and fro along the Yunnan-Kweichow highway could deliver no more than 300,000 tons of goods a year — an amount which today's railway traffic handles in a single month.

The Kweiyang-Kunming line is playing an increasingly great role in quickening the pace of socialist construction in the southwest and in other parts of China.

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a big boost by revolution and capital construction developed at a rapid rate. The productive capacity added in the eight years for turning out many products surpassed the total increase in the 17 years before the Cultural Revolution. The newly acquired capacities in iron mining, oil extraction, power generation, and production of chemical fertilizers and chemical fibres in the eight years equalled or even trebled the previous 17 years' total increases.

R.S.V.N. Economic Delegation

The Economic Delegation from the Republic of South Viet Nam arrived in Peking on December 27 for a visit to China. The economic delegation is headed by Nguyen Van Hieu, Member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

and Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade Li Chiang gave a banquet that day to welcome the delegation.

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien met and had a cordial and friendly conversation with the comrades-in-arms from south Viet Nam on December 28.

An agreement on China providing gratuitous economic aid to the Republic of South Viet Nam in 1975 was signed in Peking the same day. Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien attended the signing ceremony.

Thai Trade Mission Comes To China

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien met and had a friendly conversation on

December 24, 1974 with the Thai Trade Mission headed by Prasong Sukhum, Deputy Minister of Commerce, and with Panlert Buranasilatin, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, and Anand Pan-yarachun, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations as deputy leaders.

Arriving in Peking on December 20, the mission was met also by Chinese Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua on another occasion. While in the capital, the mission had commercial discussions with various Chinese import and export corporations and visited a factory, a people's commune and historical sites and scenic spots.

The Thai guests left Peking on December 25 for south China before going home.

Radio Peking

English Language Transmissions

	GMT	Local Standard Time	Metre Bands	Kc/s
NORTH AMERICA (EAST COAST)	00:00-01:00	19:00-20:00 (E.S.T.)	30, 25, 19	9940, 11945, 15060
	01:00-02:00	20:00-21:00 (E.S.T.)	42, 30, 25, 24, 19	7060, 7120, 9780, 9940, 11945, 12055, 15060
	02:00-03:00	21:00-22:00 (E.S.T.)	42, 30, 24, 19	7060, 9940, 12055, 15060
	03:00-04:00	22:00-23:00 (E.S.T.)	42, 30	7120, 9780
	12:00-13:00	07:00-08:00 (E.S.T.)	25	11685
NORTH AMERICA (WEST COAST)	03:00-04:00	19:00-20:00 (P.S.T.)	31, 25, 24, 19	9460, 11650, 12055, 15060
	04:00-05:00	20:00-21:00 (P.S.T.)	31, 25, 24, 19	9460, 11650, 12055, 15060
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND	08:30-09:30	18:30-19:30 (Aust. S.T.) 20:30-21:30 (N.Z.S.T.)	31, 25, 19	9460, 11600, 11720, 15060, 15435
	09:30-10:30	19:30-20:30 (Aust. S.T.) 21:30-22:30 (N.Z.S.T.)	31, 25, 19	9460, 11600, 11720, 15060, 15435
SOUTHEAST ASIA	12:00-13:00	19:00-20:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)	47, 39, 32, 25	6290, 7660, 9480, 11600, 11650
		19:30-20:30 (Singapore)		
		20:00-21:00 (Saigon, Manila)		
		18:30-19:30 (Rangoon)		
	13:00-14:00	20:00-21:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)	47, 39, 32, 25	6290, 7660, 9480, 11600, 11650
		20:30-21:30 (Singapore)		
		21:00-22:00 (Saigon, Manila)		
		19:30-20:30 (Rangoon)		
SOUTH ASIA	14:00-15:00	19:30-20:30 (Delhi, Colombo)	41, 40, 30	7315, 7470, 9860
		19:00-20:00 (Rawalpindi)		
		20:00-21:00 (Dacca)		
		19:40-20:40 (Kathmandu)		
	15:00-16:00	20:30-21:30 (Delhi, Colombo)	41, 40, 30	7315, 7470, 9860
		20:00-21:00 (Rawalpindi)		
		21:00-22:00 (Dacca)		
		20:40-21:40 (Kathmandu)		
EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA	18:00-19:00	23:30-00:30 (Delhi)	248	1210
	16:00-17:00	18:00-19:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)	39, 30	7590, 9860
		19:00-20:00 (Dar-es-Salaam)		
WEST AND NORTH AFRICA	17:00-18:00	19:00-20:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)	39, 30	7590, 9860
		20:00-21:00 (Dar-es-Salaam)		
	19:30-20:30	18:45-19:45 (Monrovia)	46, 39, 31	6430, 7620, 9470
		19:30-20:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
		20:30-21:30 (Lagos)		
		21:30-22:30 (Cairo)		
	20:30-21:30	19:45-20:45 (Monrovia)	46, 39, 31	6430, 7620, 9470
		20:30-21:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
		21:30-22:30 (Lagos)		
		22:30-23:30 (Cairo)		
EUROPE	20:30-21:30	21:30-22:30 (London, Stockholm, Paris)	47, 43, 39	6270, 6860, 7590
	21:30-22:30	22:30-23:30 (London, Stockholm, Paris)	47, 43, 33	6270, 6860, 9030